■ BACK PAGE

Loreley resurrected by 900 artists from all over the world

Hannoversche Allgemeine

Loreley lives! The town of St Goarshausen on the Rhine, just along the river from the famous rock where the legendary Loreley strikes her sexy pose, organised a competition for people to bring to life in statues, paintings, poetry and other art forms the mythical beauty.

Around nine hundred entries flooded in from all corners of the Earth. People everywhere were captivated by the legend and flocked to bring Loreley to life.

She was created in the form of nymphs with tails and fins, a cloistered maiden from days of old when knights were bold, Twiggy performing a striptease, shapely Brigitte Bardot types, full-bosomed, with high Germanic cheekbones, and more or less topless in most cases. Everyone had his own conception of how the seductress should look.

This competition has proved that even in our blasé, sceptical, matter-of-fact atomic age there are still Romantics, people to whom the maiden on the rock near St Goarshausen is something more than a profitable tourist trap!

Those who took part came from the most diverse walks of life. There were professional artists, good and bad, using all art media, there were Sunday-afternoon water-colour fanatics, sculptors and poetasters, retired preceptors and even retired mums and dads whose creative pursuits are usually confined to solving crosswords!

Many contributors produced symbolic representations of the famous maiden and the freedom granted to the arts in a permissive society was used at times for the production of orgiastic works. Their entries ranged from a gigantic harp to a more than lifesize female leg.

Even the architects of this world were not silenced by this project. One suggested the bare rock should have an L-shaped hotel on the top and submitted the design for one.

A sculptor from Hanover designed a statue with the maiden in the middle holding Heinrich Heine's *Loreley-Lied* in her left hand and a memorial to the poet Clemens Brentano who composed the ballad *Lore Lay* in her right. Estimated cost: 40,000 Marks.

Herr Michel, the burgomaster of St Goarshausen summed up the contest by saying: "We knew that the Loreley legend was popular the world over, but we did not expect this competition to receive such tremendous support.

"Entries came not only from all over Europe, but also from behind the Iron Curtain, from Canada, the United States, Brazil, Japan and Australia."

Even before this contest was organised there were around 300 letters arriving in St Goarshausen every year from tourists all over the world who suggested that the legendary rock in the Rhine should be surmounted by a statue or a memorial tablet. Way back in the last century ideas were being put forward for something tangible on the famous Loreley rock.

It is remarkable therefore that 27 per cent of those who wrote in to this competition were strongly against the idea of putting anything on the rock. Their message was "leave well alone".

In answer to the challenge thrown out by St Goarshausen, "how about a Loreley on the Loreley rock?" twelve per cent had no definite opinion. But 61 per cent thought there should be something more tangible to the Loreley legend than just the rock.

Of this group about half thought there should be a plaque explaining the legend and the other half considered a statue depicting the maiden more appropriate. Most of them agreed that whatever was placed on top of the high rock it should be visible from the Rhine steamers passing way below and that it should be picked out by a spotlight.

Whatever the result of the competition it seems unlikely that the topless fanatics will have their way and nothing too expensive is likely to be approved.

One thing is clear: this competition which was advertised in over 200 newspapers here and abroad and on radio and television has proved to be a great tourist attraction.

Hermann Jung

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 20 November 1970)



The famous Loreley Rock on the Rhine

(Photo: dpa)

The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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Uncertainty dogs Berlin talks after East Bloc summit

More delays are bound to ensue to the chagrin of the Federal Republic and the West Berlin Senate now that the Communist summit conference in East Berlin has ended.

The conference of East Bloc states and the meeting of the Nato Council in Brussels showed that the positions of the two sides still diverge considerably. It does not have to remain so, but it could.

The statement issued by the Warsaw Pact states on European policy is open to a number of interpretations. But there is absolutely no justification for the assertion that the statement only repeated the old, harsh demands, making any sensible agreement impossible.

Even the most prejudiced observer could not read the final communique of the East Berlin conference and declare that it was dominated by Walter Ulbricht.

It is Leonid Brezhnev's style and not Ulbricht's when the statement on European policy expresses the hope "that the current negotiations on West Berlin are concluded with a mutually acceptable agreement serving the interests of detente in Central Europe as well as the needs of the population of West Berlin and the legitimate interests and sovereign rights of the German Democratic Republic."

On the fiftieth anniversary of the Armenian Communist Party a few days previously Brezhnev had uttered almost the exact words in a speech at Erivan. The only difference was that there he spoke of the *wishes* of the population of West Berlin and not of the *needs* now written into the East Berlin statement.

It may have been Ulbricht who caused the change which is also present in the Russian version. But the fact remains that, for the first time in an official East Bloc document, the interests of West Berlin have been made equal to those of the GDR.

The phraseology makes no promises but it would be a good basis for compromise, always providing that the Soviet Union herself does not want to decide what the wishes and needs of the West Berlin population are.

The Socialist Unity Party (SED) is far from happy about this passage, as its reaction shows. In GDR press commentaries opinions are expressed on the East Bloc conference's statements on Indo-China, the Middle East and Africa as well as on most aspects of the statement on Europe. There is however no mention of the Berlin problem.

Nobody will talk of a schism as long as unity is part of dogma. But there are enough indications of existing differences.

In mid-November Walter Ulbricht complained that not enough use was being made of the possibilities of consultation on certain basic questions of theory.

Brezhnev on the other hand said at the Budapest Party Congress, "We have now developed the sound practice of consultation on current affairs."

In other words, the SED believes that it is not consulted enough since its wishes are not adequately considered. The Russian party leadership on the other hand believes that consultation is good, but cannot mean that the smaller partner always gets it way.

The assertion that the members of the Warsaw Pact expressed their unanimous solidarity with the peace policy of the German Democratic Republic is more a nice-sounding phrase than a statement that deserves to be taken seriously.

It also contradicts the call to "preserve the principle of settling disputes exclusively by peaceful means without using or threatening force". The GDR has after all just tried to settle disputes about Berlin with the non-peaceful and forceful means of blocking the access roads.

But these differences do not mean that a wedge is being driven between the GDR and the Soviet Union. Russia is interested in improving the GDR's position and making her internationally acceptable.

But there are obviously differences in strategy. GDR action hindering traffic on the access roads to Berlin has achieved one thing at least – all parties in the Bundestag have confirmed the right of the Bundestag, its organisations and parties to meet in Berlin.

The measures had a further consequence. They provoked the Western allies to make a plain statement of their negotiating position in the Berlin talks once again. This statement is contained in the communique of the Nato meeting in Brussels.

It is not "aggressive circles within Nato" that are responsible for this communique, as newspapers in Russia and the GDR would like to think, but the governments of the Nato states.

There is an obvious difference of opinion between the Russians and East Germans on another point too. The Soviet Union believes that East Berlin's position can be improved in the Berlin talks and the GDR admitted to the United Nations after a settlement is reached.

The East Berlin government is not quite so certain and would prefer confirmation of its old doctrine stating that full diplomatic recognition of the GDR must be the first step in the Federal Republic's Ostpolitik. But East Berlin was unable to put this view across from the very beginning.

Immediately after the summit conference in East Berlin, Polish party leader Wladyslaw Gomulka said in a speech at Zabrze that he hoped that the normalisation of relations between Bonn and Warsaw would lead to the establishment of diplomatic relations and create a new climate favouring objective economic,

Continued on page 3



Brandt honoured

Chancellor Willy Brandt was made an honorary citizen of West Berlin at a special ceremony in the Schöneberg Town Hall on 12 December. West Berlin governing Mayor, Klaus Schütz (left) and Walter Sickert, President of the West Berlin parliament, were among Berlin's VIPs present at the ceremony. (Photo: dpa)

IN THIS ISSUE

President Nixon on U.S.-Soviet relations

President Richard Nixon has said that relations between America and the Soviet Union remain difficult. That is diplomatic language for a political state of affairs that is causing more unrest as time goes by. Relations between the two giants have not been as bad as this for a long time.

Since the Brussels conference America's leading position in the Western alliance is again undisputed. The political significance of American divisions exerts a decisive influence on European policy.

Nixon's press statement of 11 December on the state of tension between the United States and the USSR can, as a negative interpretation of the strategic position, also be a warning to some Western cabinets not to be too self-satisfied in their policy of detente.

The United States is steering a firm course as regards the East. Nixon is still offering negotiations instead of confrontation but he has made a painful discovery during his term of office – the Russians have mistaken his readiness to negotiate for weakness.

They shamelessly exploit the dialectics of nuclear policy. Under the nuclear shelter neutralising all-destructive forces they have made the incompatibility of a traditional controversy between nuclear powers into a guide line for all their political actions in the Mediterranean, the Middle East, the Far East – and in Berlin. The Russians have been testing their new position in the world.

The Americans have only just recognised that the soviet Union has growh from a continental power into an empire challenging the world and intervening everywhere it can.

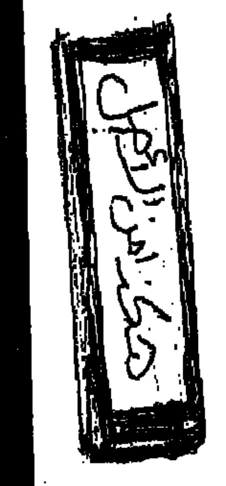
Washington now wants to correct its previously false evaluation. That is what is behind Nixon's recent decisions in strategy and foreign policy.

The economic position at home is making the future of his government appear dim. As Nixon wants to be reelected, the Europeans and the Japanese should not take the new policy of "Protectionism" lightly.

At the 11 December press conference Nixon did not state his position on the Mills Bill. But he needs the understanding of Europe if his strategy of the firm course is to prove successful. An isolationist America would be a Russian victory.

If Europe one day finds herself alone in the confrontation with the Soviet Union, the old Continent would become, at best, another Finland.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 12 December 1970)



■ **OSTPOLITIK**

Polish Treaty buries the past

Willy Brandt can look back on days that doubtless deserve to be called historic, as Polish Premier Cyrankiewicz pointed out. Harsh disputes with the Opposition lie in store for him but unless the indications are deceptive the prospect does not worry him, or perhaps it would be better to say that it no longer does.

The Warsaw visit has given him greater self-assurance and no matter how cautiously the outcome is assessed it must be admitted that the Chancellor's showing, his approach to the negotiations have not only created a profound impression but also mark the first step on the road to the oft-cited process of establishing normal relations between Bonn and Warsaw.

This at least was the gist of what Polish Premier Jozef Cyrankiewicz had to say at the final press conference on 8 December.

This means in practice mainly that both sides are already dealing with economic affairs, cultural exchanges, youth programmes and, touch wood, holidays in the former German Eastern territories as though the treaty were not only signed but also ratified.

As regards the most important immediate problem from Bonn's point of view, that of reuniting families separated as a result of the war, it was clear even before the Chancellor's visit that Poland was going to give the go-ahead. It will, of course, take time but the end of 1972 is one deadline that has been suggested.

This method of starting on the consequences of the treaty before it has been given final approval naturally presupposes the expectation that ratification, though it may take time coming, will occur in the none too distant future.

This optimism must be shared by both governments and it must seriously exist. Even if one were to assume that Poland is interested in prompt progress on, say, the economic front while this country is interested in progress on humanitarian issues, neither side can afford to take a risk that forces it to make a success of the agreement.

In this context it is worth noting that mistrust of the Americans is voiced amazingly often as soon as one mentions to a Pole the Berlin problem, which is, when all is said and done, the most serious obstacle in the way of ratification.

The invariable answer is: "The Soviet Union is clearly ready to come to terms but are the Americans?"

No matter how much importance is attached to this point one thing is clear now that the treaty is, in Willy Brandt's words, "to be activated right away": –

There is no longer the slightest need to argue or wonder whether the Warsaw treaty can or ought to be ratified before the Moscow treaty, still less whether the final step should or should not be made dependent on the much-vaunted satisfactory solution of the Berlin question.

Premier Cyrankiewicz's point that Poland is not one of the four powers that are negotiating on the Berlin problem and that there is no need for a race against time to decide which of the two treaties is ratified first was clear enough but no longer need worry this country.

Foreign Minister Walter Scheel's Berlin proviso for Poland as well as the Soviet Union – and it is difficult to see any point in it, to say the least – has at long last vanished into oblivion after persistently recurring during the three days of the Chancellor's visit.

The events of the initial stages of the visit pale in significance beside this useful procedure for both sides. Which is not, of course, to say that they are unimportant.

Poland's preparedness to establish diplomatic relations as soon as the treaty is ratified has, for instance, seemed far from a matter of course to many observers in this country.

This, mind you, has been due to a frequently mistaken assessment of the Polish attitude.

Since Wladyslaw Gomulka's famous speech of 17 May 1969 Warsaw has at no time made its policy decisions dependent on whether or not this country recognises the GDR as a foreign country, affording East Berlin full diplomatic recognition as generally demanded by the GDR since the Kassel meeting between Willy Brandt and GDR Premier Willi Stoph last May.

The Poles would for some time have been quite happy if Bonn were to acknowledge the existence of the GDR on equal terms. This is a different matter altogether since it makes allowance for a special relationship between the two German states of the kind that Bonn proposes.

This Polish approach, which has now been reiterated, is not a matter of course either. Up till spring 1968 Poland, the GDR and Czechoslovakia formed what was called the Iron Triangle.

As far as Walter Ulbricht is concerned this is past history cast in an interesting light by the fact unearthed by German journalists that Wilanow Castle, where Willy Brandt stayed during his visit to Warsaw, had previously been allotted to only five visiting worthies, none of them Germans.

Prague too has become an interesting prospect. On more than one occasion the Poles mentioned and indeed recommended the Czech capital as the next stage in Bonn's policy towards the Eastern Bloc.

Against this background the invitation extended to and accepted by Polish Premier Cyrankiewicz to visit Bonn is little more than a formality, though it really ought not to be underestimated.

But it is certainly far less important than the readiness of both sides to end more than thirty years of terrible relations between this country and Poland by signing the treaty and making a fresh start.

Jozef Cyrankiewicz on 8 December mentioned 1 September 1939, the outbreak of the Second World War, which, he noted, had brought frightful suffering on the Germans too, and expressed the fervent wish that 7 December 1970, the date the present treaty was signed, might gradually erase memories of the earlier date.

It is sad indeed that this second date also brings to an end centuries of German history and the fond hopes of millions of people who come from the former German Eastern territories – and the Poles, amongst others, would do well to respect the fact.

But if the peace is to be kept and made safer the past must be overcome for the sake of the future. In Warsaw this country and Poland have made their contribution to this process.

Hans Gerlach

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 9 December 1970)

Text of the speech Chancellor Brandt made to the nation on radio and television after the signing of the Polish Treaty

My dear fellow-countrymen,

I am conscious that this has been a difficult journey to make, but it is one that will be of consequence for a peaceful future. The Treaty of Warsaw is intended to draw a line under the sufferings and sacrifices of an evil past. It is intended to build a bridge between the two States and their peoples. It is to open up the way for separated families to reunite and to make frontiers less divisive than hitherto.

And yet, one could not have signed this Treaty without having earnestly examined one's conscience. We did not take this decision lightheartedly. We are fraught with memories, with blighted hopes. But our conscience is clear for we are convinced that tensions will have to be eliminated, treaties on the renunciation of force complied with, relations improved, and suitable forms of co-operation found, in order to achieve a European peace system.

In pursuing these aims we must start from what actually exists and from what has developed. This also applies with regard to the western frontier of Poland. Nobody has compelled us to see it this way; we have come of age. The point now is to prove that we are mature and have the courage to recognize reality.

What I said when I spoke to you from Moscow, my dear fellow-countrymen, also holds true for the treaty with Poland: it does not surrender anything that was not gambled away long ago. Gambled away not by us who hold and held political responsibility in the Federal Republic of Germany, but gambled away by a criminal regime, by National Socialism.

We must not forget that what was inflicted on the Polish people after 1939 was the worst it had ever had to suffer in the course of its history. This injustice has had its consequences.

Our nation, too, was afflicted with great sorrow, especially our East German countrymen. We must be just: the greatest sacrifices have been made by those whose fathers, sons or brothers have lost their lives. But next to them, it is those who had to leave their homeland who paid most severely for the war.

I refuse to accept legends, whether German or Polish: the history of the eastern regions of Germany cannot be arbitrarily rewritten.

Our Polish partners know what I should like to tell you at home once again in all clarity: this Treaty does not mean that we recognize injustice or justify acts of violence. It does not mean that we subsequently legitimate expulsion.

Resentment offends the respect for the grief that mourns what has been lost – lost "in sorrow, war and alas, in unquenched tears", as the Silesian, Andreas Gryphius, put it at the end of the Thirty Years' War. No one can escape this grief.

We are distressed by what has been lo[st] and the hard-tried nation will respect o[ur] affliction.

Names like Auschwitz will be in the minds of both nations for a long time to come and will remind us that hell on earth is possible – we have experienced it. But this very experience constrains [us] to tackle the problems of the future wi[th] resolution. Escape from reality create[s] dangerous illusions. I therefore say: [to] subscribe to this Treaty, to reconciliatio[n] and to peace, is to accept German histo[ry] in its entirety.

A clear consciousness of history does not tolerate unrealisable claims. Nor do[es] it tolerate those "secret reservation[s]" which the East Prussian, Immanuel Ka[nt] warns against in his essay "Towar[ds] Eternal Peace".

We must look to the future and s[ee] morals as a political force. We must bre[ak] the chain of injustice. By so doing we [are] pursuing a policy not for surrender but [of] reason.

The Treaty between Poland and our selves – a treaty, as the official ti[tle] reads, concerning the Basis for Normal[is]ing their Mutual Relations – is not [a] substitute for a formal peace treaty. [It] does not affect the rights an[d] responsib[ili]ties of the Four Powers with regard [to] Germany as a whole. It does not dep[rive] of effect any contractual obligatio[ns] previously assumed by either side.

I wish to make special mention of th[is] because naturally our active participatio[n] in the West European Communities [and] our firm place in the Atlantic Allia[nce] form the basis from which we shall se[ek a] new and better relationship with th[e] peoples of Eastern Europe.

Not until we see the Treaty in [its] overall context does it become clear wh[at] it means for peace, for the divid[ed] German nation, and for a united Euro[pe]. A Europe which can be created not [by] declamations but by purposeful wo[rk] only.

Nothing is more important than the creation of stable peace. There is n[o] alternative. Peace is not possible witho[ut] European solidarity. Everything th[at] brings us closer to this objective will be [a] service to our nation, and above all t[o] those who come after us.

Red Cross prepares for flood of applications to return

This country's 523 Red Cross district offices face the prospect of an inundation of applications for Germans in Poland to be reunited with relations in this country.

Most offices have doubled the number of hours they are open for consultation, a spokesman for the Red Cross inquiry department in Hamburg, which processes all applications, has commented.

The number of applications, he forecast, will increase from 90,000, which is the number of real hardship cases the Red Cross has on its books, to about 270,000 now that applications can be submitted on behalf of friends as well as relations.

The Red Cross spokesman expressed the hope that the Polish authorities agree to facilitate the financial terms of exit travel for individuals.

So far the full cost of the journey from Poland to this country has had to be deposited in German currency with the Polish authorities before the individual has been granted permission to leave.

"Unless some alteration is made to this procedure," he noted, "we will not be able to handle too many cases of Germans who would like to leave Poland for this country."

(DIE WELT, 10 December 1970)

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■ **HOME AFFAIRS**

Bonn has not been exclusively foreign policy orientated

Clichés sometimes carry more weight than the truth. For almost a year the rumour has been circulating in the Federal Republic that the government is too active in its foreign policy and too inactive in domestic reforms.

Some people have gone so far as to say that the Social Democrat/Free Democrat government has overstepped the mark on the foreign field, but hardly got off the ground as far as social reforms are concerned.

The reason, they say, is that on the one hand there is not enough cash in the government coffers and no unity among the various members of the two parties in the coalition government.

These clichés are all untested, unproved and, moreover, far removed from the realities. Certainly it is true that the new government made lavish promises at the beginning of their legislative period. Many readers of the statement of government policy might have been led to believe that everything was about to change drastically.

It is also correct that the funds available for the reform programme are not going to stretch as far as was hoped at first.

And it is quite right to assume that the various members of the coalition take different ideological viewpoints on the question of social welfare policies and that they are not entirely agreed on all points.

Worker participation in management for instance is a bone of contention. And so, following the example of the Grand Coalition whenever it had to deal with thorny problems, the subject has been shelved.

Nevertheless the accusation that the Brandt/Scheel government is incapable of carrying out a programme of reform is largely prejudiced. It is based on the false supposition that somewhere there is one single, great, all-embracing reform that will solve all our problems. He who sits and stares at reform for too long fails to see the wood for the trees.

In the past week or so five important laws affecting social welfare have surmounted the last parliamentary hurdle. What happened? Practically nothing. There was nothing visibly striking so television could not be bothered with covering the event.

Newspapers did not consider the new legislation "a good read" and so they devoted little space to it. Radio's commentators found they could not get very excited about the new legislation and gave it all very little air space.

It was considered to be material for the experts. And who can blame the mass media? Even politicians generally regard social reforms as something that should be left to the experts.

This is something that seems to be peculiar to the Federal Republic. Every last sub-section, phrase, word and dot on the i of a treaty with an East Bloc country will be analysed and studied in the glare of publicity.

A communiqué from a Communist country is considered interesting for the nation as a whole including the reading and viewing public. The best brains in the country discuss it and criticise the wording of each sentence, clause and paragraph. Powerful emotions are raised.

There often follows a whole campaign of readers' letters to the newspapers. Many a negotiator of foreign policies has sighed with resignation and said how much easier his job would be if the foreign sector were also considered to be the preserve of the experts!

The difference as compared with domestic policies is astounding. It is unjust that so little attention should be given to domestic reform.

On certain occasions there is a flicker of interest among the general public. On the question of legalising pornography, for example, the general public and politicians have been getting in each other's hair.

A Bundestag hearing was called, moral champions stepped up to defend what they believed in and the pros and contras all had their say. Unfortunately cause and effect were really just a deception since in this case whether or not pornography is legalised the fact remains that it is spreading and become general and very little action is being taken against this situation.

In aspects where society is really being changed and millions of citizens are affected the whole affair is accepted like night and day. Health insurance is being made available to all full employees without consideration of age, state of health and income. All full-time employees, no matter what health insurance scheme they belong to, are to receive half of their contributions from their employer. If these reforms are passed they will be of great significance for many people.

An estimated three million will benefit in that they will be relieved of the worry that they might fall sick. As an aside: earlier governments have failed to get similar laws passed, this one has succeeded.

The new legislation on housing and rents is of equal significance. It takes this country another step along the way to becoming a welfare state. Amendments to the Rent Act, increases in child allowances and improvements in the old age pension scheme for farmers are likewise laws that make life far safer and more bearable for many people in this country.

The list of successes chalked up by the government is still not complete. Another move that has been made is the improvement to the system of pensions for victims of the last war. The health insurance contribution for pensioners has been abolished and a scheme has been introduced to help workers build up a bank balance.

On the question of town planning and regional development which foxed the Grand Coalition the SPD/FDP coalition partners have reached unity as they have on amendments to company law.

These are all stones in the mosaic of the modern welfare state that is slowly being built up and gradually taking shape. Reform as a whole can only be built up out of simple, individual reforms.

There are two objections. Critics are saying that the toughest nuts still have to be cracked, namely university reform and fiscal reform.

As far as university reform is concerned the central government, the Federal states and various factions in the universities themselves are at odds. On the question of tax reform there are differences of opinion in the government.

There is no need to catalogue the government's few failures. It is easy to forget that many reforms which the Grand Coalition tried to push through such as finance and budget reform took several years to complete, and we can be certain that the professional critics will quite innocently say when university reform is introduced that at long last we have the law, but the reform is something for which we shall have to wait.

Another objection which is raised is that the reform programme is not sufficiently radical and all-embracing. Schemes for improving further education are said to be outdated, the town planning laws are too tame, capital accumulation legistation is called a drop in the ocean, road improvements, it is claimed, are taking too long and company law reform is a miserable compromise, the critics claim.

There seems to be widespread disappointment among the political ideologists of *Der Spiegel*. Hardly a week goes by without their hauling a member of the Bonn coalition over the coals. They work on the lines that what is needed must be done whether or not it is possible.

Criticism is usually blunted when it is directed at reforms already carried out. What this government has achieved in domestic reforms stands comparison with the successes of previous governments.

As far as foreign policy is concerned the difference of opinion in the FDP and SPD are generally speaking of a tactical nature. On the domestic scene, however, the two parties of the coalition have basically different viewpoints. The Free Democrats insist on the rights of the individual and they consider personal freedom to consist mainly on the undisturbed accumulation of private property. For the Social Democrats the basic precept is solidarity and they are inclined to put too much trust in organisation and consider the State as an almighty benefactor.

Compromises become difficult on the question of fiscal reform where the FDP has one or two fixed ideas although the lines it has drawn up on educational policies are slightly more flexible; but only slightly. Unity is also difficult to achieve when the FDP swears by the myth of a fiscal policy that in no way affects social welfare policies and property in all forms is considered inviolable and beneficial to the well-being of society.

Fiscal reform is, therefore, the most difficult problem facing this coalition and it will be hard to find a compromise if the FDP sticks with the old idea of the industrialist as a capitalist and a manager in one person whose power must in no way be limited.

Rolf Zundel

(DIE ZEIT, 11 December 1970)

More accommodation for refugees to be provided in case of need

In anticipation of a large number of Germans emigrating to the Federal Republic from Poland and the former eastern territories the accommodation at the Friedland camp for these homeless émigrés is being increased by the Lower Saxony provincial assembly.

Herbert Hellmann, the minister responsible for the affairs of refugees and expellees in Lower Saxony, said recently in Hanover that the numbers of these émigrés would only be known when the negotiations between the German Red Cross and the Polish Red Cross had been completed by mid-January.

According to the minister the problems thrown up by the provisions in the Warsaw Treaty for expatriate Germans to be allowed to settle in the Federal Republic would take a long time to solve.

A sudden loss of 100,000 working men



would have a detrimental effect on Poland's economy. This influx of people to the Federal Republic could result in a severe housing shortage.

They would need help from the government in Bonn to find accommodation. Spokesmen for the Ministry of the Interior and the state governments are therefore convening in Bonn on 17 December to discuss this.

A conference with Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Bonn minister responsible for the affairs of expellees in planned for 21st December.

Herr Hellmann has said that the Friedland camp near Göttingen is being considered for the first group of émigrés from Poland. The other large camp at Zirndorf is reserved for settlers from Czechoslovakia and the Balkan States. There have already been 13,000 arrivals from these countries in 1970, the greater number being from Rumania. From the former eastern territories, Poland and the Soviet Union 9,000 émigrés came to the Friedland camp.

Up till now Friedland has been able to accommodate 500 people in family groups. Now several former administration buildings have been converted and 700 refugees can live as a family. A further 1,100 places have been provided for men and women to live separately. According to Herr Hellmann, Friedland could be made to take in 5,000 to 8,000 settlers per month.

For political reasons he would not give the number of refugees who have been registered with the Red Cross. In the past it was reckoned that there were 500,000 to 600,000 Germans in the eastern territories and Poland who would like to settle in the Federal Republic.

In the past few months Polish authorities have been unwilling in many cases to grant exit visas. This, it is thought, was because the Poles were preparing to alter the conditions for resettlement. Exit visas have been costing up to 5,000 Zloty each, which is about two months pay for the average working man.

Apart from the reimbursement of all fees for exit and compensation for property refugees arriving at Friedland have been receiving a "welcoming gift" of 100 Marks each from the government.

The Friedland charity campaign, a private organisation has also been contributing thirty Marks-worth of clothes and thirty Marks in cash.

(DIE WELT, 10 December 1970)

Uncertainty dogs Berlin talks

Continued from page 1

scientific, technological and cultural co-operation. Gomulka said nothing about recognition of the GDR being necessary.

Nobody is making the demand that the Federal Republic recognise the GDR, even though some political commentators understand the statement of the Warsaw Pact states in this way.

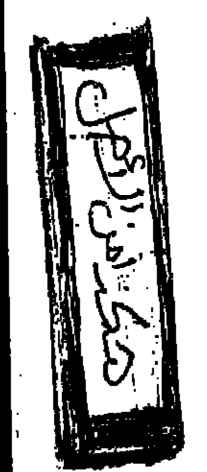
The statement merely says that "the establishment of relations between the GDR and the Federal Republic on the basis of the generally valid norms of international law" would be an important contribution to European security – in the subjunctive. That is different from full diplomatic recognition.

Full diplomatic recognition by the Federal Republic would not give the GDR proof of a sovereignty that neither of the two German states has.

If the Soviet Union wants the "sovereign rights" of the GDR considered in the four-power talks, that's their problem. The Western powers cannot and will not help. As the position is at present, this means that an agreement on Berlin is not yet in sight.

Joachim Nawrocki

(DIE ZEIT, 11 December 1970)



■ CENTREPIECE

Chancellor Brandt and his historic appointment in Warsaw



Thin wisps of fog hung over Wilanow Castle as the lights were switched off in the left wing of the Baroque building. Shortly afterwards the spotlights standing between the bushes and the park were dimmed.

Sentries carrying sub-machine guns patrolled along a red brick wall marking the boundary of the grounds.

Wilanow castle is about six miles south-east of Warsaw at the end of an avenue of bare poplars and surrounded by untilled fields rank with discoloured grass. There is nothing to alleviate the melancholy of this landscape.

But the nocturnal mood did not seem to have a depressing effect on Chancellor Willy Brandt who had just retired in the castle's left wing.

Even the splendid chambers assigned to him as accomodation – built by the Polish King Jan III in the seventeenth century as an amusement palace for the summer months – could not dampen the Chancellor's good spirits.

Lying in an over-long mahogany bed specially made three years ago for General Charles de Gaulle, Brandt switched off the lights shortly before midnight on the Sunday and was able to dwell on his impressions of what had happened during the evening and fall asleep well contented.

As a general indication of how Brandt felt, State Secretary Conrad Ahlers stated that, when in the company of the Poles with whom he had dined and talked for three hours that evening, the Chancellor had always had the impression that he was among men who belonged to the same European cultural group.

This remark is based on the fact that Brandt made speedier and more intensive contact with his Polish hosts than he was able to with the top men of the Kremlin hierarchy when in Moscow to sign the Bonn-Moscow Treaty.

Conversation over the meal of chicken, carp and hare never once faltered. It was serious but so uninhibited and natural that Brandt could not help gaining the impression that reconciliation between Germans and Poles was possible.

Wladyslaw Gomulka had helped him embrace this hope that bordered on certainty. The Federal government had only learnt the previous Friday that the 65-year-old leader of the Polish Communist Party was to sit next to Brandt during the dinner.

Replying to journalists in Warsaw, the Polish government spokesman was unable to say whether Gomulka would be there or not until shortly before the meal was served.

Mysterious behaviour is the rule in Poland wherever Wladyslaw Gomulka is concerned. Whatever he plans to do, what he says or decides is not made public until Gomulka personally issues the order.

Dressed in a dark-grey suit, Gomulka arrived three minutes after Brandt in the small salon of the nearby Natolin Castle where the Chancellor spent his first evening in the People's Republic of Poland.

Although neither of the two men have the gift of ease, a conversation was immediately struck up and none of the other people crowding around the table were able to get a word in.

Brandt began, with artificial cheerfulness, by mentioning great footballers in his country who bore Polish names.

But seconds later he and Gomulka were in the middle of a conversation dealing with the past and what had been lost, before turning to the future which looked more promising now that the Bonn-Warsaw Treaty was to be signed. The two men treated each other as equals. "The ice is broken," Ahlers commented.

When treading Polish soil for the first time on the wet apron of Warsaw airport, Brandt was, obviously, so tense inside that he looked as if he was doing all he could to control his emotions.

His country's national anthem, the flag of the Federal Republic, the military ceremonial of the guards who goose-stepped past him and the respectful heartiness of Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz's greeting only served to turn his embarrassment into awkward formality.

He stood longer than usual before the standards of the guard of honour saluting him with fixed bayonets. His voice sounded so flat that it seemed it would break as he shouted, "Good day, soldiers."

376 journalists stood at the edge of the apron. No political event in Poland had ever attracted so many pressmen before.

Including the guests of honour, the diplomats, party officials and the secret police, there were more people present than the Bonn-Warsaw Treaty has words. And the Treaty has 435 words.

Negotiated in six rounds of tough talks and then set down on paper by the two Foreign Ministers during an eleven-day conference in November, the Treaty promises under the compulsion of history that the provinces to the east of the Oder-Neisse Line totalling over 40,000 square miles are finally written off as German territory.

Before the documents were signed on the following Monday and before Brandt had a second meeting with Gomulka, representatives of both countries were agreed on what would happen next concerning the Treaty – both sides realised that the respective parliaments could hardly ratify it before next spring.

The timetable suggests that this is the earliest date for a vote on the Bonn-Moscow Treaty whose final ratification by the Bundestag depends on a satisfactory Berlin settlement.

Contrary to the wide-spread belief, the Poles do not want their treaty ratified before the Bonn-Moscow Treaty. At the dinner on Sunday evening the Poles expressed their ideas of procedure in an ideal case.

They say that it would be best for the Warsaw Treaty to be initialled 48 hours after the Moscow Treaty with a greater Bundestag majority, though not much higher.

As Ahlers could not reveal details of this type to the press he was in a difficult position in the conference room of the Europejski Hotel.

The reporters never tired of asking him whether there was some sort of link between the Warsaw Treaty and an improvement of the situation in West Berlin, a materially indissoluble link.

The Chancellor has never mentioned a link of this type but a recent statement by Foreign Minister Walter Scheel could give rise to a countrary impression.

Not wanting on the one hand to deny directly what Scheel had said and determined on the other hand not to mention a link, Ahlers found a way out of his embarrassing situation. To the laughter of his listeners who felt the same way he said, "The Chancellor is always right, and so is the Vice Chancellor – nearly always."

The Polish journalists at the press conference also laughed but their laughter was mingled with surprise. It would have been sacrilegious for a Polish spokesman to have adopted such a free and easy tone when speaking of the top political men in his State.

The Polish interpreter was momentarily speechless when he later had to translate what Ahlers said. The Federal Republic's government spokesman, stated that "some of our famous writers" would brush up the text of Chancellor Brandt's television address to the nation.

Ahlers was referring to authors Günter Grass and Siegfried Lenz who were at that time putting the final touches to the Chancellor's speech. The interpreter was clearly put out of his stride and only realised what was meant after long explanations.

Brandt was unable to begin the Monday as a tourist as he had to record his television broadcast. He should have visited the old parts of Warsaw to see how the Poles had reconstructed everything destroyed by the Germans during the Second World War. Warsaw's rebuilt old buildings are evidence of the European tradition in architecture.

85 per cent of the buildings were destroyed but exact copies were made. 200,000 people lie buried under them. There is no doubt that Brandt was impressed at the sight of the one thousand Patricians houses, the forty churches and fifty noble palace that look as if they have never been damaged.

This tour of the old city of Warsaw rebuilt with great sacrifice during the harsh post-war days, showed the deep feeling the Poles have for their history and how difficult it is for them to forget a German war of aggression that killed six million of their countrymen.

To honour the Poles who had died fighting for freedom, the Chancellor began the day by laying a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier.

Set in a block of granite are bronze tubes containing the earth from m graves of Poles from all battlefields where Polish soldiers fought against Fascism: Westerplatte, Tobruk, Narvik, Lenino, Falaise, Berlin and Monte Cassino.

When General de Gaulle lay a wreath here in 1967 a giant banner hung over Victory Square. Large white letters on the ten foot high and hundred feet long red banner attacked militarism and revanchism in Bonn. Now Victory Square echoed with the strains of the Deutschlandlied, this country's national anthem which could be heard all over the city.

Shortly afterwards Chancellor Brandt laid a second wreath before the memorial in the ghetto. This was the Chancellor's express wish.

A guide wanting to tell him what suffering Poland's Jews had experienced here was unable to reach the end of his speech. He stopped when he saw the Chancellor kneel before the memorial overwhelmed by his emotions.

Brandt needed a few seconds, which seemed an eternity to those who watched the moving scene, before he stood up again. It looked as though he had to summon all his strength to fight back tears.

All Poland's newspapers showed the picture of Chancellor Brandt on their front pages that Monday. Press commentators praised him as Germany's first anti-Fascist Chancellor.

Though gestures made to him in Poland did not reach the degree of homage that he previously encountered in America, Britain and France, it did overshadow what the Russian press had said about the Chancellor.

The majority of the 34 million population of Poland may not have been ready for this sudden change of feelings but the Polish journalists were.

Their articles almost sound as if it is a long-forbidden pleasure to them to write about Brandt and all progressives in Bonn without being hypocritical.

The offical Polish news agency took the opportunity of the treaty signing to announce for the first time how many films from the Federal Republic have already run in Polish cinemas since 19[illegible] – seventy. The 71th will be *Hunting Scenes in Lower Bavaria* the agency announces.

All the praise, hospitality and fruitful talks were not able to make Brandt act like a statesman who was light of heart, he knew without a shadow of a doubt that he was pursuing a policy that was sensible for detente in Europe.

When he sat down in his green-upholstered armchair at midday to sign the treaty his face was red and numb. His hands lay motionlessly, as if paralysed, on the table of exotic dark brown wood. He avoided looking at the journalists, his eyes fixed on an imaginary point in the distance.

The Treaty was signed in the White Hall of the Radziwill Palace. The walls were decorated with lime green marble that reflected the lights of the giant chandelier.

Six bay-windows revealed a view of Polish and Federal Republic flags hanging on tall flagposts. About 1,000 people stood outside on the street, craning their

Continued on page 5



Chancellor Willy Brandt kneeling before the memorial to the Jews killed during the uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto
(Photo: Sven Simon)

■ WARSAW

Relaxed atmosphere at Brandt-Gomulka meetings

Forcing his tired face to beam, Willy Brandt reached for his glass to drink the final toast that evening to the health of those guests who seemed so lively that it looked as if they intended to stay even longer.

But Wladyslaw Gomulka glanced at his watch and, with an expression of regret, gave a sign to end the party. It was twenty minutes past midnight.

"Goodnight, Chancellor," echoed the other Poles as they bowed their farewells.

Flanked by two guards officers saluting with drawn swords, Brandt looked thoughtfully at the long motorcade of black Mercedes limousines that drove back towards the centre of Warsaw. Everybody with prestige and power in the People's Republic of Poland was represented.

The meal given by Brandt in return for dinner and a breakfast began at half past eight that evening. At a quarter past eleven the guests left the dining room for coffee.

What now followed requires accurate description. At a large round table Germans and Poles sat between Brandt, Gomulka and Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz, indulging in a private conversation that had nothing to do with the normal routine of modern summit diplomacy.

The atmosphere was so unconstrained that the small group of journalists from this country sitting at the table quickly decided it was like an old boys' reunion when looking for a comparison to the evening's events.

This judgement was certainly not distorted by superficialities. In the previous [illegible] hours the representatives of Poland and the Federal Republic in Warsaw had grown closer to each other on the personal level than has ever been the case at the first meeting between Federal Republic politicians and former enemies.

Observers of their intimate manner with one another, the way they spoke of their schooldays and political careers and the mutual interest shown in every statement could not conceal their surprise.

When these men were talking, the sands of time seemed to have covered a lot of what happened in the past and what must now be bridged in the feelings of the public.

It may just have been a particular fortunate stroke of chance that the political past seemed to have been overcome so surprisingly quickly and that differences in political ideology did not disturb the harmony.

Probably the only reason it was possible is that this was a meeting of men who had discovered that they liked each other.

Brandt gave the signal for this atmosphere after the evening's speeches were over and the fruit salad was being served.

Handing a copy of the menu to Gomulka, the Chancellor asked him for his autograph, explaining that it was for his son Peter. Suddenly all 58 people present wanted each other's autographs.

Later over coffee and cognac one of the Chancellor's party asked chain-smoker Cyrankiewicz to accept a present and handed him a cigarette lighter in a black leather case inscribed with a silver Federal eagle and underneath the name of Willy Brandt.

Afterwards the Polish Prime Minister made an effort to light the cigarette of everybody who wanted to smoke. "Really," he said, "it's a nice souvenir."

Compared with Cyrankiewicz, Gomulka looked almost insignificant. But anyone remembering him as shy and at times awkward-looking will have to correct this impression.

Comrade Wieslaw, his cover name in the resistance by which old friends still call him, gave the impression of possessing an almost priestly-seeming wisdom.

There is an aura of serenity and calm about him. Surrounded by journalists from the Federal Republic, he spoke with them in a comfortable, relaxed atmosphere as if he was trying to gain the reputation of being a pleasant socialite.

Only the behaviour of the Poles showed that his strict authority is unlimited. Even Cyrankiewicz treated him with a respect that indicated what Gomulka can be like when he orders instead of chats.

"Be careful," Cyrankiewicz told his interpreter, throwing a glance at Gomulka that requested his approval, "I'm going to depart from the manuscript now." This was during his reply to Brandt's dinner speech that Poland's newspapers published in full on the Tuesday. In the Party organ *Trybuna Ludu* two pages were devoted to reports on the signing of the Bonn-Warsaw Treaty.

The sentences added spontaneously by the Polish Prime Minister were so heartfelt in their appeal for reconciliation that Brandt went over to Cyrankiewicz and silently held both hands out to him.

In his speech the Chancellor had said, "For many of my fellow-countrymen whose families have lived in the East this day has particular problems attached to it.

"Many feel as if the loss they suffered 25 years ago has only come about now. To a certain degree they were prisoners of wishful thinking.

"But I wonder whether people here in Poland were not to a certain degree prisoners of the wrong idea that we in the Federal Republic of Germany could never be trusted. We shall still need time with each other."

The Chancellor was interrupted by applause – an unusual event at diplomatic dinners – when he added, "You can be certain that we do not fail to see that this is no easier for you than it is for us. But it is that constitutes the common possession of a fate we cannot escape. There is only one way: the frontiers must cause less separation and pain."

At the time of this speech Brandt did not know that he had found unexpected support for the clash with the Opposition.

It came from the leaders of the Federal Republic's Catholic youth organisation whose chairman was one of the guests invited to accompany the Chancellor to Warsaw.

He had distributed a statement in the press centre welcoming the Treaty. One of his points was: "The normalisation of relations between the two countries will help put an end to the evil spirit of hate, hostility and nationalism."

Chancellor Brandt and Polish Party Leader Gomulka toasting the signing of the Polish Treaty in Warsaw.
(Photo: Sven Simon)

Putting the Treaty into practice will only be possible if the Poles pay the surety that Brandt spoke about with Gomulka and Cyrankiewicz.

He said that they should state their readiness to exert all their influence in Moscow and East Berlin to overcome the most dangerous obstacle in the whole of his *Ostpolitik* – a satisfactory solution must be found for West Berlin. Brandt repeated this so often and so patiently that he believes he can hope for Poland's help.

When a reporter spoke to him of the necessity of this help, Cyrankiewicz replied unhesitatingly that the Poles wanted to help.

He did however mention one limitation – "Of course, we are not a major power." Cyrankiewicz decided to attend a press conference on the Tuesday along with Willy Brandt.

It was like a world premiere. The head of the government of a Nato country had never before appeared at a press conference with the head of the government of an East Bloc state.

The two men sat together at a green felt table for 75 minutes. Their statements had little news value but they did have a high emotional content. Neither of them denied how strongly they were now moved by the impetus of the idea of reconciliation.

Social Democrat Brandt and former Social Democrat Cyrankiewicz were both journalists before they became politicians. On Cyrankiewicz's initiative they described themselves as colleagues and addressed all reporters present as colleagues.

Cyrankiewicz was so pleased with this appearance that he found it hard to leave his colleagues. He spoke of peace. He spoke and spoke like someone who has waited a long time to be allowed to speak.

He did not really have anything to tell them that said more, or less too, than his extremely unusual comment after Chancellor Brandt's introductory statement. Announcing his full agreement, he said, "You can take what the Chancellor has said as coming from me too."

A little later the communique agreed to by the two heads of government was issued. The difficulties involved in formulating a communique after summit conferences are usually so great that it is now usual among the partners of the Western alliance to do without one.

But writing a joint declaration involved less difficulty in Warsaw than it sometimes does between troublesome and disagreeable allies.

After his guests had left Wilanow castle the evening before, the Chancellor needed no more than five minutes to give his communique expert practical guidelines.

He was so affected by the day's events that he was unable to sleep and so returned to the red silk tapestries of the salon to talk with friends of what had particularly moved him that day.

As he spoke of the day all the anguish and shattering moments were far behind him. He had regained his poise so much that he did not mind telling his listeners what had made him kneel down after laying the wreath at the memorial for the murdered Jews of the Warsaw ghetto.

But Brandt did not act on a sudden inspiration when he knelt down. Brandt admits that he had previously considered what he should do. "I thought that it just simply was not enough to bow my head, no, I couldn't just do that," he said.

He spoke of the future of the Treaty until twenty minutes to two that morning. "It will still be difficult," he said.

When the Treaty is eventually presented to the Bundestag Brandt wants a free vote so that every member can be responsible to his own conscience.

"I want the parties represented in the Bundestag to call for a free vote," he said. "It would be good for our country if we make the vote a question of conscience, with all respect for those who make a different decision to their party colleagues."

To help achieve this aim, the Chancellor has arranged that Rainer Barzel, the chairman of the parliamentary Christian Democrats, should receive all official aid when he goes on his tour of Poland at the end of January.

When asked whether giving such help was not being too fair, the Chancellor replied, "The leader of our Opposition should have the best treatment wherever he goes."

Willy Brandt said this as a person who bases all his actions on decency and honour.

Hans Ulrich Kempski
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 9 December 1970)

Continued from page 4

necks to see something of what was happening in the Palace.

Brandt, Cyrankiewicz and the two Foreign Minister had to sign the text of the treaty twice. There was the German version in a dark blue folder and the Polish version in red. The penholder used for the signing bore gold crowns.

With arms crossed in front of him Party leader Gomulka stood in the centre of the guests who had done so much for reconciliation between the two countries.

He peered to the ground, apparently apathetic, not looking at Cyrankiewicz as he rattled off his signature as if it was a routine matter while Brandt, conscious off the significance of his action, took eight seconds for each of his signatures.

Everything was over by five minutes past twelve. A door opened and butlers came in serving champagne from silver trays.

Before Willy Brandt raised his glass to drink to the two countries he shook hands with Gomulka and Cyrankiewicz. Each shaking of hands lasted twelve seconds.

There was then a silence. A calm descended like in a theatre after a great performance that has shattered the public.

Hans Ulrich Kempski
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 8 December 1970)

■ THEATRE

Brendan Behan's 'Hostage' performed at Kiel

Kieler Nachrichten

Brendan Behan's *Hostage* caused a real scandal here when it was given its German language premiere in Ulm in 1961. Now, almost ten years later, the rage felt on account of this unruly Irish playwright has died down.

Behan, who, when appearing at Berlin's Schillertheater in 1959, caused an even greater scandal than his first drama was able to, died in his home town of Dublin five years later.

The Hostage, with its attacks against God and the world and set in a brothel, can no longer enrage a modern audience. There was lively applause at the end of the play's Kiel premiere recently.

In this drama clothed in the garments of a musical there is a peculiar mixture of the tragic and comic. Behind the comedy, satire and irony are concealed the more significant feelings of melancholy and fear of the world.

At the end of the play an innocent person is senselessly killed but instead of there being a state of deep shock the revue-style finale expresses a mood of unruffled merriment.

The Hostage is a series of episodes. The laborious cohesion is provided by a young English soldier. This harmless Cockney in uniform is captured by members of the IRA, the Irish Republican Army, and kept prisoner by the organisation in a Dublin house. He is being held hostage for one of their men who has been captured by the English and sentenced to death.

Death is therefore all-pervading in this brothel habituated by prostitutes, pimps, homosexuals, alcoholics, drivelling veterans and exalted women.

When death strikes at the end nobody knows how it came about. A stray bullet from an unknown marksman lays the young Londoner low. This Cockney who, like his Irish guards, has little ability to hate dies at the precise moment that the police are about to rescue him from his prison.

The play is set in the mid-fifties. It is of great significance today, though for different reasons.

When watching the play the audience thinks involuntarily of the bloody clashes between Catholics and Protestants in the same Northern Ireland, the senseless fight and the equally senseless killing.

If *The Hostage* does not appeal to aesthetes with a weak stomach, it should hardly be a play for anybody insisting on reason and commonsense.

But it is. The play and this production is wonderful entertainment for an audience. It has also been seen differently, especially, after its premiere.

People have always praised Behan's great strength and his skill in distributing sarcastic remarks concerning Anglo-Irish relations both past and present. People have praised his fairness, his love of humanity and his insight into "true reality".

This production has retained as many of the qualities as can be included in a commercial play without surrendering any of its theatrical effect.

It is difficult to examine the serious core of the play as interpreted in the Kiel production. In the struggle between the tragic and comic the comic triumphed hands down so that the audience has to resign itself to it and look for examples of black comedy and eccentric humour between the sentiment and literary, theatrical anarchism. The play provides plenty of this with its familiar brothel setting and the so dramatically effective characters.

To the undisguised pleasure of the audience, this is quite a lot. Jan Biczycki, with the help of Professor Paul-G. Buchloh, directed the German version of the play by Annemarie and Heinrich Böll according to his own scenic ideas.

He did not miss a chance to bring out the comic extravagance or scenic turbulence. Wherever a situation, or a character, started to swing to an extreme (and the play depends on this), Biczycki helped it on its way with a mighty push.

His production divides the action into sections that promise to be fruitful. As they are almost exclusively bound to the milieu, he is bound to types that cannot be developed any further and he has them as caricatures that parody and occasionally outrage.

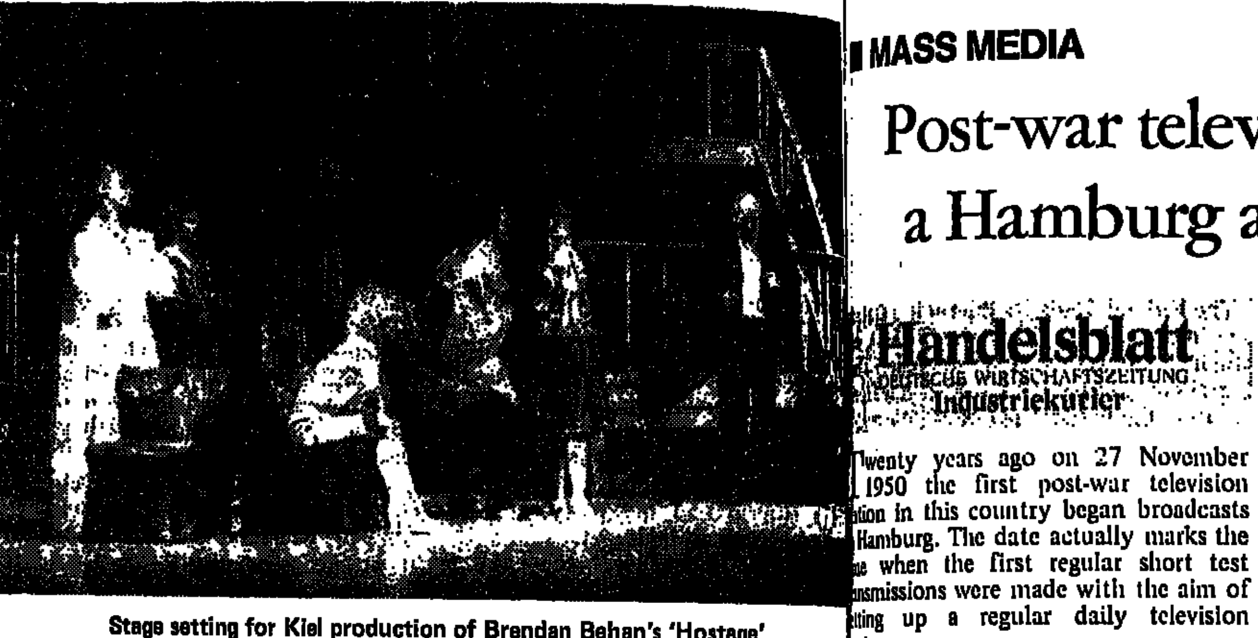
The play thus becomes a series of star turns in which every character is allowed to show what he can do or what he believes he can do.

It goes without saying that such a comically inclined actor as Siegfried Lorisch did not need telling a second time. He grumbles and boasts, he beseeches and thunders like a rebel should.

As far as the vulgar is concerned, he is almost surpassed by Aldona Ehret. As his companion in life, she is the resolute though sentimental principle of order in this unordered brothel in which all the decadent figures have a good (theatrical) heart.

This is as true for the homosexuals, parodied by Erich Leukert and Dieter Lamberty, as for the cheerful prostitutes whom Ortrud Gross and Anne-Dore Strauss try so valiantly to make credible.

It is no less true for the lovers whose deep affection for each other almost becomers poetry in the naivety of the performances by Brigitte Schauder and Gisbert Rüschkamp as the hostage.



Stage setting for Kiel production of Brendan Behan's 'Hostage'

(Photo: Bühnen der Landeshauptstadt Ki

Wolfgang Hessler as the owner of the "hotel" and a man of military bearing and Werner Nippen as a former civil servant down on his luck and an old-time ladies' man provide plenty of grotesque comedy. Rosemarie Kilian also gaily participates in this in her role as a social worker.

Peter Randt as an IRA officer and Horst Mendroch as one of the organisation's volunteers are less clearly defined than Inge Wittstock in her appearances as a piano player and Peer Augustinski as a Russian sailor and spy who takes a great pleasure in brothels.

Friedhelm Strenger created the interior of the dirty, rundown house in the slums of Dublin. Anthony Taylor was responsible for the original choreography.

Karl Eckert wrote the music for the large number of songs, many of which were convincingly performed. The songs became more blasphemous as the action became weaker and more drunken. Applause was lively, as has already been said.

Hans H. Henselelt

(Kieler Nachrichten, 1 December 1970)

TV's film plans for 1971

One of the greatest attractions of television in this country today is still the feature film, but over the years viewers have decided exactly what they want and expect from these films that have previously run in cinemas here.

This is made clear in the ARD programme of cinema films that was recently commented on at a press conference in Frankfurt.

On Saturday nights viewers expect action. Thursday is the day for light entertainment while top-class international films are best received on Mondays and Tuesdays. Horror films are high up the list of viewers' desires on Saturday.

Along with unknown films intended to provoke viewers there will also be box office draws. Two Hitchcock films will be shown as well as an American Western starring Marlene Dietrich and a Maurice Chevalier film.

25 films will also be shown for the first time in this country.

(DIE WELT, 27 November 1970)

Translators discuss their work at Esslingen talks

In the United States there are training camps for translators at some universities and the Swedes have twice held a campaign to remove verbal garbage from foreign language dictionaries.

But these are the only two announcements of this type in the Western world – with one exception: the Third Esslingen Talks.

They have already become an institution. Their name is derived from the place where the first meeting of the series took place – Esslingen on the River Neckar.

The third seminar for literary translators was held in Bad Boll. More people arrived than could be accommodated. Bad Boll was completely booked up.

Everybody wanted to be there. The Esslingen Talks have now become for translators what the Gruppe 47 used to be for authors seeking new ways of expression.

What are the aims and how are they to be achieved?

Example one: Two lexicographers told the congress how they collect and compile material for a foreign language dictionary. The two speakers both worked by themselves or in a small group when compiling their lists of words.

Neither of them had been able to make use of the experience and findings of terms with dictionaries and reference works every day.

This situation is to change. The editorial staff of the international translators' periodical *Babel* will now publish foreign words not yet included in dictionaries together with the necessary explanations and the corresponding German translation. These words will be sent in by translators, the people who always use dictionaries.

Example two: If scientists want to analyse a translation and develop theories about translating they are forced to consult translations that are already in print.

As most books are usually only translated once, the scientists are not given any chance to compare works.

But things are different at the Esslingen Talks. Some time before the conference all the translators who planned to attend were given two short texts in English and French to translate.

The Linguistic Centre of Erlangen University collected the results together. By using this method scientists are able to find recurrent defects in translations, discover the cause of errors and determine the range of variations in the best possible translations.

Both the translators and the theoreticians profit from this. The large gap between the two groups becomes steadily narrower thanks to the Esslingen talks.

Example Three: Translators have a wealth of experience that they cannot share with others while sitting alone at their desk. They have no opportunity for analysing, interpreting and discussing translations in the company of colleagues.

This at least was the situation before the Esslingen Talks came along. They can now sit together in small groups and thrash out difficulties in translating English, French, Italian or Russian. Next year there will also be Spanish, Czech and Swedish groups.

The younger translators can learn from their elders and all of them subject themselves to a learning process that is at present being developed scientifically. This year's conference was attended by three spokesmen from university departments.

Example four: the translator of a German writer is rarely able to discuss with the author difficulties involved in translating his work, have concepts and phrases explained by him and learn to understand the thought behind the book to be translated.

At this year's Esslingen Talks time was therefore set aside for an author to face his translators. Siegfried Lenz met the people who had translated his *Deutschstunde* into French and Bulgarian.

The Esslingen talks owe their existence to the initiative of the translators themselves. These talks have helped translators achieve solidarity that has never previously been witnessed in this country.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 27 November 1970)

■ MASS MEDIA

Post-war television began in a Hamburg air-raid shelter

Handelsblatt
DEUTSCHE WIRTSCHAFTSZEITUNG
Industriekurier

Twenty years ago on 27 November 1950 the first post-war television station in this country began broadcasts in Hamburg. The date actually marks the time when the first regular short test transmissions were made with the aim of setting up a regular daily television service.

This applies to what was then *Nordwestdeutscher Rundfunk* NWDR-Hamburg, and yet the re-awakening of television which first began in Germany in 1935 in Berlin and ran until 1944 had in fact come earlier in the post-war period.

Long before the first pictures could be switched on to the comparatively small screens of the day technical equipment had to be manufactured, technicians employed and trained and all the hundreds of people who would be needed on the staff had to gather together to pool their experience and knowledge on the studio floor, behind the cameras, on the lights, in the props department and as writers and directors.

They met in Hamburg and their one aim was the re-birth of television.

This was an unfavourable time for a new beginning. Much war damage remained to be repaired. The loss of radio wave-lengths as a result of the directive on wave-lengths issued in Copenhagen which came into force in 1950 meant that a VHF network had to be built up.

The armies of occupation were at first opposed to all experiments with television until in 1948 Hugh Carleton Greene the British controller of the later NWDR area gave the go-ahead.

There was a lack of technical equipment and studio space which was solved by setting up shop in a Hamburg air-raid shelter, of knowledge and experience among members of the controlling committees and first and foremost of money.

Another difficulty was the choice of lines. Before the war Germany and France both used a 441-line standard, while Britain had chosen 405. The British wanted to introduce the 405-line system into Europe since in London and the surroundings there were already 15,000 sets in operation using this norm.

France planned to improve the system by increasing the lines that formed the television pictures to 819 while the Federal Republic considered that an increase to 625 lines was sufficient.

The negotiations that followed were long and hard and economic considerations played a major role. But in the end it was possible with the help and support of experts in the posts and telecommunications branch in Europe and particularly in Switzerland to get 625 lines as the accepted norm.

After two test transmissions in March and September NWDR Hamburg began an experimental service on 27 November 1950 with a handful of experienced workers who were given more scorn than encouragement. They were completely on their own and moreover their financial backing was at rock bottom.

But at the time NWDR which also served North Rhine-Westphalia, Lower Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein and West Berlin was the only radio station that managed to produce a television service from the funds allotted to it for wireless.

The station in Hamburg and Berlin which received from autumn 1951 a monthly allowance of 6,000 Marks managed to put on a two-hour programme every day and carry out experiments which gave sufficient experience for an official programme service to be won.

Trade papers, not to mention the daily press, gave little encouragement with warnings and criticism accompanying every minor experiment.

The speed at which the television service was built up was extremely slow although the programme planners and technicians worked with the kind of enthusiasm which is unimaginable today.

These limitations, however, could do nothing to reduce the service that NWDR performed for television as a whole in these two years when it was collecting experience from which all radio and television stations were eventually to benefit. During the period of these test transmissions the Bundespost found time to create a network of transmitters and booster stations reaching Cologne, Frankfurt, Baden-Baden, Stuttgart and Munich.

The radio industry for its part began the mass production of high quality receivers. Since then it has become an industry with a turnover of many thousands of millions and at a time when television production seemed to be flagging it was given second wind by the introduction of colour transmissions.

In these early days what was broadcast? There were talks, illustrated with still photos, interviews and discussion programmes, not-too-ambitious entertainment programmes and experimental television plays with small casts and as few scene changes as possible since the broadcasting station had only one studio at its disposal.



This country's first post-war television station (Photo: NDR)

Film producers offered television cultural films and feature films which had to be repeated fairly often. With the use of colour slides and short documentary films a start was made on current affairs broadcasts.

In early 1953 it was estimated that around 1,000 people were receiving these transmission in the north-west of the country. By the end of 1953 this had risen to 11,000 but did not include Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria.

In those days the television stations in the Federal states ran joint programmes and as a result of the high cost of television productions they were forced to surrender a part of their sovereignty. Vestiges of these joint programmes remain in the coordination and cooperation of the programmes after eight o'clock each evening.

In 1953 also came the beginning of international cooperation. This began with the live transmission of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in five countries. This was the greatest breakthrough in post-war television.

Whatever followed, the experiments of the Hamburg and Berlin teleast in the two years between 1950 and 1952 paved the way. Their experiments are rarely praised and often criticised but they are the foundations on which all television stations work today.

This start in television should always be remembered. Today the television set is as much the part of the furniture as a radio receiver and now any event can be transmitted live from any one place to any other in colour.

Kurt Wagenführ

(Handelsblatt, 27 November 1970)

Low quality films are killing cinema

A society for the protection of children and young people in Munich has called for the might of the cinema barons to be broken. They are motivated by a trend that threatens to alter the whole cultural scene in the Federal Republic.

In the past ten years the number of cinemas operating in the Federal Republic has been almost halved from 7,085 to 3,739. Over 2,000 townships, villages and other areas have lost their last cinema. This even applies to some towns with populations of more than 30,000.

Even in a city like Munich where in the past decade the population has increased by 350,000 people the number of cinemas remaining in business in Olympic year, 1972, will probably be only 35, as compared with 73 in 1968.

The most alarming sign that the cinema is dying even in Munich is that the famous *Studio für Filmkunst* in Schwabing has given up the ghost.

The wasting disease in the cinema is proceeding at an alarming rate. It is already hitting the larger cinemas with yearly turnover of one million Marks. This year the loss in overall turnover as a result of cinemas closing will be four times as high as last year.

It seems that the day when the last of the Mohicans, the very last cinema on the corner, has been turned into yet another supermarket is not far away. The only cinemas that will remain then are those that cater for the *manipulated* taste for gutter films.

It is not only granddad's cinema that has gone the way of all flesh. A system that is devised solely to serve the profit motive is ruining a whole branch of the economy that was once a kind of culture for the masses in this country.

The Munich Film Institute which has done a lot of comparative work on the connections between mass communications media and the general level of education has come to many surprising conclusions behind the scenes of today's dream factory. In Federal Republic cinemas a class-conscious society reigns supreme.

In a country where less than two per cent of the families hold seventy per cent of the capital, eight per cent of the cinemas rake in eighty per cent of the proceeds from the film industry.

Just a few companies dominate the cinema world. UFA alone owns 36 cinemas that show new productions. It depends on them what happens in the film industry and they should prevent whatever is damaging to it. The premiere cinema forbids other cinemas to show the new film and only allows it to be shown at least two weeks afterwards in that district.

If the distributors do not stick to this they run the risk of being boycotted by the premiere cinema. Many distributors play ball since they have a contractual agreement with the cinema anyway.

This means that the smaller cinemas only get the film when its main pulling power has been exhausted.

Providing the public with the product known as a film is something that interests the cinema with a right to premiere a film hardly at all. They hold on to their rights and cheat the little cinema and the greater mass of cinemagoers, according to Hans Strobel's analysis.

One of the great disadvantages of this system is that when the monopoly holders for a big film prevent the little cinemas from showing it until virtually everyone has seen it these little cinemas are unable to plan their programmes in the way they would wish.

Often when they do receive copies of a popular film it is in a very bad condition. At times the films have been maliciously shortened.

Federal Republic film distributors are in the main dominated by two concerns based in Munich. Eighty per cent of the market is cornered by Constantin (owned by Bertelsmann) and Gloria. They determine what we shall see and what we shall not in this country's cinemas. They dictate the standards of the cinema.

According to the criteria of the institute run by Professor Keilhacker at least ninety per cent of the films distributed by these two companies are detrimental to the good name of the cinema.

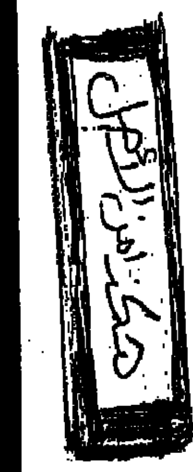
He gives as examples the sex film *Frau Wirtin bläst auch gern Trompete* (Mine hostess likes playing the trumpet) and *Andere beten – Django schießt* (While others pray Django shoots) a Western.

This is a trend that is encouraged by the Berlin Film Promotion Institute, according to Professor Keilhacker. Of 85 films his institute reviewed they considered seventy "uninteresting, superfluous and damaging to the cinema's image in the eyes of the public".

For example films that were promoted at the tax-payers' expense were *Der Mönch mit der Peitsche* (The flagellant monk) and *Das älteste Gewerbe der Welt* (The oldest profession in the world).

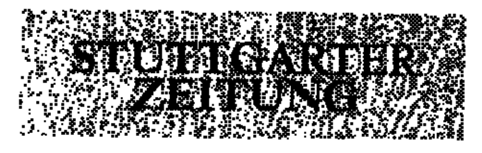
Karl Stankiewitz

(Hannoversche Presse, 3 December 1970)



■ EDUCATION

Acting the part of prospective pupils is an important facet of teacher-training



The forty pupils in the ninth year of an elementary school in a university town one day asked their teacher to let them go after their second lesson of the morning as they had decided to attend a student demonstration against the government's education policies.

The teacher refused, saying that teaching time was too valuable and that fifteen-year-olds did not have the political maturity necessary for such a step.

But after their second lesson the whole class secretly left the school.

This is a true case but it happened not in reality but in play, similar to the model battles pioneered by a Prussian council of war.

This is a new form of education that has scarcely been tested up to now. Dr Jörg Ruhloff, an assistant lecturer at Nuremberg's college of education explained.

The game replaced one of the usual seminars. The 23 male and female students taking part retired to an out-of-the-way country house.

Six of them played teachers, four each represented parents, school inspectors and the ninth class who were the cause of everything, three acted as student demonstrators and two as reporters of the local press.

The aim of the enterprise was to come as close to reality as possible and effect a solution for a conflict situation that had to be resolved.

Some details were fixed before the experiment started. The chairman of the parents' association was to be conservative, the headmaster intent on avoiding unpleasantness, the pupils' spokesman a coldblooded leader and the pupils themselves inconspicuous and with no special interests.

Their motives for taking part in the demonstration were sensationalism, obedience to their spokesman, the pleasure felt at skipping lessons and the belief that there was no risk involved as collective punishment is not allowed and there was little to fear if everybody took part.

And what happened in the game? At first the teachers met and decided to punish all the pupils with two hours detention, the harshest penalty in this case. The pupils would also have to make up the time lost and the parents would be informed.

With regard to the question of collective punishment, the teachers said that as every pupil had committed the punishable offence each could be called to account. There was therefore no question of collective punishment.

At the same time one of the two local papers expressed its indignation that "even children" took part in demonstrations of this type and, what was worse, they were smoking.

What followed became more and more hectic. School inspectors demanded a complete report from the teachers of the measures they had taken.

The organisers of the demonstration demanded a correction of the newspaper report.

The parents' association wrote that they thought the teachers had not exercised proper control over the children and would not send their children to school to sit out their detention.

The pupils spoke of unfair treatment and called upon the students to help them.

The school inspectors suspended punishment until the facts of the case could be cleared up.

Things then grew turbulent. Teaching at the school was permanently sabotaged. Slogans were written on the blackboard. There was a go-in by students who stopped lessons and tried to hold a discussion with teachers and pupils.

The headmaster called in the police and the students were removed from the school. Shortly afterwards slogans and swastikas appeared on the walls of the school and the students announced that they would block the school gates the next morning by holding a sit-in in front of them.

There is no need to follow events in detail right up to the very end. But the results were that the class spokesman and three other pupils were each given two hours detention while the rest of the class escaped punishment.

The Ministry of Education ruled that pupils were not to be permitted to take part in political events outside the school in future, except on special occasions.

The final report praised the experiment for the smoothness with which it had been run and for its practical results. The gap between educational theory and the day to day workings of a school had, the report claimed, been narrowed. The students were able to be committed, show emotional participation and identify themselves with their roles.

But it was this that caused other participants to be sceptical. They were alarmed to see how easily they were able to fit in with the functions of a role such as that of a school inspector and spoke of the actors playing their parts unthinkingly.

In his report *Acting a School Conflict*, published by Quelle and Meyer this was the point where teachers began to be hypnotised by praise for their loyalty and dutiousness, by hush-money or salary increases and by miniature reforms. During their teaching activity, Ruhloff claimed, educational theory is thrown to the winds.

Gerhard Weise

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 27 November 1970)

STUDY NOTES

Certificates

Between 1957 and 1969 the number of schoolchildren passing their school leaving certificate examinations rose by about eighty per cent.

The Federal Statistics Bureau has stated that the total for 1969 was 77,190, of which 60.6 per cent were male. The number of girls has risen still further from the 1957 figure of 34 per cent.

On average 9.5 per cent of pupils in the school years in question acquired a schoolleaving certificate. According to the figures of the Federal Statistics Bureau this is the highest proportion since 1957.

(Handelsblatt, 18 November 1970)

Kindergartens

At the end of 1969 there were kindergarten places for a third of all children in the Federal Republic between three and six years old, the Federal Statistics Bureau in Wiesbaden reports.

Compared with 1968, the number of kindergarten places had risen by five per cent but the number of places in day nurseries had decreased by seven per cent.

At the end of 1969 there was a total of 16,413 kindergartens supervised by the Youth Bureaux with a capacity of 1 million. There were also 2,080 day nurseries.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 19 November 1970)

Major pupil

What is probably a unique event in the history of parents' associations occurred at a parents meeting in Würzburg's Röntgen High School, when a pupil of the highest grade was elected second deputy for the school's parent council.

The pupil is 22-year-old Ulrich Asmus. At the parents' meeting the headmaster of the school stated that Asmus was no longer a minor and was therefore responsible for his own education.

By freely interpreting the rules, he was also qualified to stand as a candidate for the parent council, the headmaster said.

(Münchner Merkur, 19 November 1970)

Computer students

The number of students deciding to study the new discipline of computer science has rocketed this year. In the summer term about 1,100 students registered for the subject but the Ministry of Education and Science now estimates that numbers must total 1,600.

Computer science can be studied at the universities of Bonn, Darmstadt, Erlangen-Nuremberg, Karlsruhe, Kiel, Munich and the Technical University of Berlin. Facilities have also been set up this term at the universities of Hamburg, Saarbrücken and Stuttgart.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 27 November 1970)

Proposal for degrees in easy stages

Peter Mittelstaedt, the Rector of Cologne University, has drawn up a plan to exploit more profitably the capacity of this country's universities and provide industry with the number of semi-qualified young men needed.

He proposed a building-brick style of study based on American practice, allowing students to finish their studies before reaching degree or doctorate level.

In this plan, students receive a certificate at the end of every term stating that they have reached the required standard and will be able to graduate at the end of three years study.

Even if a student leaves university before his course is ended he will still be able to show future employers the certificates he has received.

Mittelstaedt stressed that industry does not require so many highly qualified researchers as the universities turn out at present. But it does need a large number of people with less academic training for production purposes.

One basic condition for the new system is that a semi-qualified person must have the opportunity of returning to a university to continue his studies after working in industry for a few years.

Mittelstaedt stated that there were no experiments along these lines taking place in the Federal Republic at present.

Tough negotiations are necessary with both the universities and industry before trials can begin in Cologne.

Hartwig Suhrbier

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 26 November 1970)

■ MEDICINE

Munich institute probes secrets of diabetes

Could you or someone in your family be diabetic? " asked a notice published by the Hamburg health authorities and distributed to children in the city's schools.

The pamphlet stated that diabetes was more common than generally accepted: "Fifty years ago in Germany only one or two people in every thousand were diabetic. Today's figure is between twenty and thirty. A rich diet encourages the disease but thin people and children can also be diabetic."

This information was meant to advertise a new campaign in which test strips can be bought at chemists for ten pfennigs each to aid early recognition of the disease.

Other cities in the Federal Republic have also conducted campaigns to aid early diagnosis of *diabetes mellitus*. Diabetes is increasing in most civilised countries today. But also two per cent of the population realise they have the disease and go to a doctor for treatment.

Doctors believe that two per cent of the population of the Federal Republic will also be diabetic without knowing it. A dangerous factor is that a quarter of the population can inheret diabetes without ever being taken ill with it themselves.

Early diagnosis and medical treatment of diabetics at all stages of the disease must become a matter of course. It is equally important to discover the cause and exact manifestation of diabetes.

Up to now there has not been a sufficient number of research centres in the Federal Republic. A new Institute for Diabetic Research has now been opened in Munich. The research group that has already been working on the subject for a number of years will be able to accomplish more now that they are moving into the modern laboratory financed by the city of Munich and this country's Research Association.

Previously the doctors and researchers had to make do with temporary accommodation belonging to the municipal hospital in Schwabing.

Following the pattern of research units in Britain and the United States, the Munich group has cooperated in both hospital and basic research since January 1968.

This cooperation between scientists of various disciplines is a good basis for investigations into the complaint of diabetes.

Professor Julius Speer, the president of the Research Association, believes that this type of diabetes research is also suited to showing the much more far-reaching necessities and possibilities of inter-disciplinary scientific research within medicine and in particular between hospital and basic research.

During the past three years the Research Association has donated 6.6 million Marks to the project. The largest part of the investment comes from the Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft and the Hoechst chemical works.

The Munich team includes experts from the subjects of biochemistry, clinical chemistry, electron microscopy, physical chemistry and internal medicine.

The research group is made up of 35 members, half of whom are academics, the others being mainly medical, chemical and technical assistants.

Annual costs total 655,000 Marks for the research group. To this figure must be added the cost of the hospital staff paid by the city of Munich.

Professor Otto Wieland, a biochemist, and Hellmut Mehnert, a metabolic specialist, head the team. The two professors are head physicians at the Municipal Hospital in Schwabing.

Because of the frequency of the complaint and its link with overnourishment the Munich specialists have described diabetes as the disease of our age.

Research begins with the examination of molecular mechanisms. The Schwabing group is trying to find out what is involved in the cell's regulation processes.

According to two members of the team, Dr Löffler and Dr Weiss, the biochemists in the research team plan to investigate, firstly, the effects of the insulin mechanism on the metabolism of vital organs and the consequences resulting from the lack or only partial efficiency of this hormone and, secondly, the dynamics and adaptability of the insulin secretion from the Beta cells of the pancreas.

Isolated organ preparations and individual cells are used by the Munich team to find out how fat is decomposed in the fat tissue, how reactions are controlled by hormones and how for example sugar reaches the muscles.

Similar methods are used to investigate the influence of various substances on the insulin release in the pancreas. In this work the research group gains new information on the general metabolism and the effects of hormones.

Among the practical results of the basic research are improvements in the early diagnosis of diabetes and in the chemotherapeutic treatment of the disease.

Examination of pre-diabetics conducted

Methods for early diagnosis can then be tested practically by the hospital section of the research team. Special attention is paid to the examination of pre-diabetics. People whose genetic make-up makes them particularly susceptible to diabetes.

It is here that cooperation with the perinatal clinic in Schwabing proves useful. Among the practical results are the more refined dietary regulations for diabetics drawn up in Munich.

Early diagnosis and further information on the causes and course of diabetes mellitus often allow treatment with drugs other than insulin. Research into diabetes is also being done in Düsseldorf and some universities, including Ulm.

Professor Wieland has summed up the general situation today: "Medical research in the Federal Republic is suffering from dissipation." Experience in his own field helped him to come to this conclusion.

Compared to the United States, Britain and the Scandinavian countries, the Federal Republic has a lot of leeway to make up in basic medical research.

That may be due to faults in government policy towards science. The Ministry of Health does not have enough money to encourage basic medical research. The Ministry of Science has only recently paid more attention to this field. Above all it is the Education Ministers of the Federal states who have neglected to finance basic medical research adequately in the past.

With the rise of affluence, there is also a growth in the threat of disease facing society. Only thorough research work can counteract this.

This is true for diabetes and other diseases that threaten us. The Munich experiment is in many ways an important source of information on the problems and possible organisational forms of medical research in the Federal Republic.

Wolfgang Rieger

(DIE ZEIT, 27 November 1970)

Experiments in feeding under-developed babies in the womb



Sooner or later it will be possible to nourish underdeveloped children artificially while they are still in their mother's womb.

Professor Erich Saling spoke of the first successful experiments on the opening day of the Third Congress for Perinatal Medicine, a subject dealing with the most dangerous period of life before, during and immediately after birth. The congress was held in Berlin's Kongresshalle.

Surveys from developing countries, more than anywhere else, have shown doctors that babies undernourished during pregnancy have more or less serious shortcomings in their intelligence in later life.

If the expectant mother is suffering from starvation, the brain of her unborn child cannot develop normally. Even the most nutritious nourishment after birth cannot make up for this disturbance in development.

Unborn children are occasionally undernourished in the highly civilised, affluent countries too, with the result that the development of their intelligence is inhibited.

This can happen when the expectant mother does not have an all-round diet containing all the valuable nutrients. The unborn child requires an adequate supply of proteins.

Doctors wanted to give the unborn child the basic amino acids making up the proteins when the situation was critical. But how were they to get to the baby as it swam around in its mother's womb?

Basically nothing could be easier. Every day the unborn child drinks small quantities of amniotic fluid. The amino acids only need to be injected into the amniotic fluid.

In theory everything sounds simple. But, as Professor Saling said, doctors must be extremely cautious when doing this in practice.

This method was first considered four years ago and has been tested seventeen times on nine expectant mothers. The decisive factors seems to be the quantity of amino acids injected into the amniotic fluid. If too much is injected, the labour pains may begin prematurely.

One thing that should be certain is that the embryo does receive the amino acids from the amniotic fluid and does process them. This treatment is then of great benefit to its development.

At present this method is still very much in its infancy and a number of details must be cleared scientifically before general use at every hospital can be considered.

Dr J.W. Dudenhausen, a member of Professor Saling's perinatal research group in Neukölln, showed the thousand and more specialists from home and abroad who were attending the congress a new device which can determine the colouring of the amniotic fluid.

It the amniotic fluid has a green or yellow hue, the child could be in acute danger and immediate steps must be taken to save it.

Obstetricians have always judged the colour of the amniotic fluid by using the amnioscopic method developed by Professor Saling. As the human eye was used, this was automatically a subjective judgement. One doctor could rule that a case was normal while a colleague disagreed.

Even slight variations of colour can mean that the unborn child's condition gives cause for alarm. An objective method of colour determination is therefore to be preferred.

Dudenhausen has developed an apparatus that sucks the matrix from the vagina and forms a small swelling or protrusion, though without endangering the embryo.

The protrusion is then illuminated. Various coloured filters can then be used to determine the colour of the amniotic fluid by spectrophotometric methods.

The main area where this equipment will be used, is in cases where the differences in the green and yellow hues are hard to differentiate.

A stir was caused some years ago by a South African method that was said to enable the birth of super-intelligent babies. The expectant mother had a plastic dome placed over her abdomen and a vacuum pump was then used to create a state of decompression.

This method was reported to relieve the head of the unborn child of the pressure from the womb. This was supposed to result in better circulation, and therefore provision of oxygen and development, in the baby's brain.

A year ago Dr W.M. Fischer of Hamburg University's Women's Hospital expressed his considerable doubts about the method after conducting experiments of his own in this field.

He found no especially talented children among these decompression babies. Dr Fischer submitted to the congress the results of his examinations of expectant mothers who had undergone decompression treatment.

From a purely physiological point of view, the belief that the method leads to better oxygen provision for the embryo can be completely dismissed.

In his investigations, Dr Fischer found that when women undergro vacuum treatment their hearts beat more violently and they fight for air and their breath comes in short pants. Blood pressure falls and the number of heartbeats a minute also drops.

Fischer describes this as a state similar to that of shock. Some women he examined even lost consciousness for a time.

When things like this happen, the Hamburg gynaecologist "cannot see for the life of him how oxygen provision via the placenta can be increased" so that the circulation of blood in the child's brain can be improved.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 27 November 1970)

New dental drill

People who are terrified of visiting their dentists should have their lives made easier for them by a new synthetic material.

This material is to be used as a filling and will form a true link with the actual substance of the tooth — the first time that this has been achieved. Painful drilling will not be required.

It was however admitted that the substance, discovered only a few weeks ago, still has to prove itself in practice.

Dr Wolfgang Halle of Lemgo, the branch chairman, stated that about fifty per cent of dentists in the Federal Republic have switched to the new method of treatment whereby patients lie down and dentists work in a seated position.

This method was better for all concerned, he said. Dentist need no longer bend down while working — a posture that could prove harmful to their health — and patients could be more relaxed while being treated.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 17 November 1970)

■ ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Experts urge unions not to make excessive pay claims

This year's report by the committee of experts for economic affairs will be read with great satisfaction by anyone who is a confirmed believer in the value of this institution and its function as a pedagogic set-up and as an umpire!

The four professors who make up the committee, Professors Bauer, Köhler, Sievert and Professor Kloten, the chairman, have produced a document that gives a carefully considered appraisal fo the present economic situation in this country, the facts behind the figures and the likely development of our economy in the months to come.

One factor worth noting is that this time there is not excessive emphasis laid on economic growth; consideration of this reached the peak three years ago with talk of "thirty milliards of economic growth just thrown away" (on account of recession).

At that time the committee, whose members were not the same as in the present set-up, recommended two almighty pushes in the form of government spending to try to make up lost ground during 1968/69.

In both years this recommendation was only half carried out. And even that led to an economic boom, which is now rolling away on the horizon like a clap of thunder leaving behind it the devastation of high prices.

Economic stability has been lost for the private consumer in the past two years. There has been a general loss of spending power of thirteen thousand million Marks reckoning the increase in the cost of living at only 1.5 per cent per annum instead of the more realistic increase of 2.5 per cent in 1969 and four per cent in 1970.

Reminiscences of this kind justify satisfaction in this year's economic report. The four wise men (fifth member Professor Gutowski, who was nominated recently, has not yet taken an active part in the proceedings) quite rightly consider the downward phase of the economy on which we have embarked to be fraught with risks.

The boom that preceded this phase was stronger than anything previously experienced and since the economy is like a pendulum it seems likely that the swing in the other direction will also break a few records!

But a majority of the committee is against giving a boost to investments and helping the economy to get started on the uphill climb yet.

Professor Köhler, however, who is in closer contact with the trades unions, voted for giving the economy a helping hand in this way.

Most of the committee members agreed that while the forces dragging the economy down towards recession had not yet shown their strength it would be wrong to aid investments and add fuel to the fire of rising prices.

Their recommendation that credit restrictions should be eased up early next year was motivated from the point of view of currency policies as well as industrial-economy policies.

Employing fiscal encouragements was not recommended at all, apart from the suggestion that if the clamour for increased wages and salaries can be quietened next year the ten per cent tax surcharge might be paid back ahead of schedule.

A majority view expressed in the report was that an economy that acted in an expansive fashion, but was sheltered and cut off from the outside world, would run the risk of introducing a new upward trend without having previously provided the basis for increased price stability. Nothing need be added to this comment.

Without doubt we can look upon the next economic year with greater confidence than we did in 1966, since we have three thousand millions in reserve for balancing the economy and at the end of this year will have at least 2.4 thousand million Marks in tax surcharges.

In 1966 after all, apart from the desolate and bleak outlook for the budget there was a major political crisis adding to the general gloom.

The committee of experts has, however, made it clear where the dangers lie in spite of these comforting factors. They lie in the wages and salaries situation.

Developments in these fields have added considerable weight to the factors that have thrown the economy off balance and caused instability.

In the boom year 1968 these factors were still reacting to the shock effect of the recession and the hesitation that resulted from this led to great expectations for high profit levels. As a result of this companies made large-scale investments.

When the State failed to apply the economic brakes at this time wildcat strikes resulted and in the autumn of 1969 the first real push for increased wages and salaries took effect. Under the dictates of trades unions that had been rattled there came even more extravagant wage demands this year.

According to the exports wages and salaries trends have been diametrically opposed to stability for one year now, since they have lost contact completely with productivity.

But just to regard the situation from this point of view means ignoring the inner forces of an uncontrolled economic boom. In fact if anyone wants to try to check the almighty power of unbounded economic fervour he has to tread on the economic brakes in good time. And this is not confined to credit squeezes.

This fact was neglected. The mistake made by Economic Affairs Minister Karl Schiller was to take price trends as the barometer for the economic climate — prices only tell what *yesterday's* prevailing economic conditions were and are useless for *forecasting* what will happen next.

Now the trades unions can no longer plead innocence in this whole sorry affair. If they continue to try to cut the economic cake in the favour of those they represent with further heavy wage and salary increases they will, in the opinion of the committee of experts, produce a further "contracting effect" on the economy by cutting profit margins even more.

It is for this reason that the experts are calling for the repayment of the tax surcharge before the end of 1971 in the hope that this will check the flood of wage demands.

The Professors have worked out that wage increases of up to five per cent would have no effect on prices in 1971.

They have taken into account the unfavourable climate for companies and investors this year and the burden that was placed on the economy by the latest round of wage tariff negotiations. The outcome of this is guaranteed to bode evil and bode evil for the level of employment as a whole.

The experts do not believe in miracles and thus have taken a far less favourable estimate of increased wages as their working figure — ten per cent. They would love to be proved wrong.

The wage-scale agreements for the public services branch, which the experts rightly consider to be a signal, could perhaps be the turning point.

The 8.7 per cent increase in pay that has been agreed for this branch is of course way above the five per cent that the experts feel would not have a detrimental effect on prices. But it does show recognition that the bow must not be drawn back too hard, when it is compared with the original demand.

No doubt remains that clouds are gathering in the economic sky. Only responsible wage demands can prevent the storm breaking. *Fritz Ullrich Fack*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 4 December 1970)

BDI issues warning about future of export markets

Handelsblatt
DEUTSCHE WIRTSCHAFTSZEITUNG
Industriekurier

Members of the Confederation of Federal Republic Industries (BDI) have held discussions with business managers and directors at a meeting in Frankfurt at which questions of foreign trade were mentioned and once again great concern was expressed about increasing protectionist tendencies in international trade.

As far as the passing of the United States Trade Act is concerned a very serious situation could arise that might set off a worldwide chain reaction.

As far as this country's foreign trade situation was concerned members of the BDI stated that they were convinced the competitiveness of our industries on export markets had deteriorated throughout the year.

Faced with greatly increased costs and the after-effects of revaluation of the Mark that are only now being felt to the full as well as the extreme difficulties in finance in the middle-term and long-term export industries it was increasingly difficult for industries to maintain their position in the world.

As there had been a noticeable drop in incoming orders from abroad in the more important branches of industry they gave warnings that predictions of future trends for exports should be cautious in the extreme.

As far as trade with the East Bloc is concerned BDI members are not expecting great things. Trade with these countries is not expected to increase greatly. In future as now and in the past the volume of trade with the communist East will depend on how much these countries can export to the Federal Republic.

(Handelsblatt, 27 November 1970)

As expected the Bundesbank has lowered Bank Rate, a small step along the way to normalising the excessively high interest rates. And the Bundesbank made no bones about it that their decision was prompted by the situation with regard to foreign trade more than any other factor.

Decreased bank rates in other countries, particularly the United States, forced the Frankfurt-based bank of issue to lower this country's Bank Rate or watch helpless as another flood of speculative money came into this country attracted by the high interest pay-off.

But the Central Bank Committee has not altered the level of required minimum reserves.

So the Bundesbank is thereby keeping credit institutes to a tight rein. They are giving an unmistakable signal that they intend to continue pursuing a hard line.

The sluice-gates for our domestic industrial economy are being kept tightly shut, according to the Federal Republic Industrial and Commercial Congress.

This is all the more remarkable since there have been signs from several quarters in the past few weeks that the economy is grinding to a halt and starting the downhill journey!

The economic situation is still showing an upward trend. Costs and prices are still rising. In fact it seems that the landslide of cost increases that is only now beginning to make its effect felt on the economy will gather momentum in the weeks and months to come.

Stabilisation of the Mark must be given priority

The writing on the wall announcing a forthcoming economic recession with increasing prices (stagflation) in the face of excessive wage demands is no longer just an illusion and this is a point that must be made forcefully and without mincing words.

To let go now of the reins that the economic powers-that-be in this country have been keeping tight for so long would result in an escape from the downward plunge into recession, but it would also mean the end of the policy of keeping the value of the Mark at a stable level. Stabilisation is at present the main criterion.

This is something that is quite unlikely to happen judging by statements made by the Bundesbank.

The Bank is not one of those voices on the economic battlefield that calls for the economy to be given a shot in the arm if this going to mean that we fall foul of the addiction — inflation.

Their yardstick and that of all right-minded economists is stabilisation of the currency. This they all feel is the most satisfactory way of pursuing an economic policy aimed at growth.

As far as social welfare is concerned a stable currency is also vital, particularly when savers and pensioners are taken into consideration.

Of course it is not possible for a country such as ours to survive with a stable currency in a world where many other countries with which we have close economic ties are not so stability-minded unless we are prepared to accept alterations to parity, either revaluing our currency or waiting for other lands to devalue theirs.

It is very difficult to imagine how stability can be restored and what form it will then take.

It will certainly be a gradual process. At this very moment despite all efforts to cool the economy down a landslide of high costs is bearing down on the economy.

Not only has the explosive tendency for increased costs this year pushed prices sky-high, but it has also cut profit margins. As a result of this firms have less money for investments which could help towards a return to stability without recession.

Herein lies the problem that will one day see the Bundesbank forced to relax its credit restriction policy. When this day comes cooperation between the Bundesbank and the government and both sides of industry will be essential.

This cooperation will be the more fruitful, the more all concerned realise the value of stabilising the Mark.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 3 December 1970)

■ BUSINESS

Computer king Heinz Nixdorf pursues go-it-alone policy

DIE WELT

Heinz Nixdorf is a self-made-man in the computer industry because he had the courage to do something he believed in. The precepts behind the way he works are drawn from scenes in his early life and what he remembers of his father and the previous generation.

His father was a railwayman in Paderborn, Westphalia. Like millions of other fathers in the early thirties he was out of work.

Talking over the garden fence with his neighbours the discussions he held were about the problem they all shared in those troubled days.

The spade with which he was supposed to be digging the garden was standing idle, buried in the soil. His son asked why all those out of work did not get together in a cooperative venture.

This is still a good question even today when the son, now aged 42, is the sole shareholder and chairman of the board of Nixdorf Computers AG.

Cooperation is a word that is always on people's lips in connection with the man whose start in the computer world was said to be a vertical take-off.

Heinz Nixdorf's name has in the course of just a few years spread far beyond the bounds of North Rhine-Westphalia and is in fact known the world over.

Cooperation is something to which Herr Nixdorf says Yes whenever he is asked the interminable question how long he can continue operating without the help of a partner in a concern where the turnover and therefore the capital requirement is continually rising.

The Nixdorf computer firm was founded in 1952 when Heinz Nixdorf was a student of physics and it now employs 5,000 people with four factories in Paderborn, Cologne, Wuppertal and Berlin. It has ten foreign subsidiaries.

Heinz Nixdorf relies on his own knowledge and experience and he leaves no doubt in people's minds that "at least until the end of 1972" he intends to remain completely independent. This is despite the fact that by the end of this year his turnover should have been increased to around 250 million Marks and the number of people employed is being increased to 12,000.

With 38 per cent of his own capital in relation to the balance sheet total which for the first six months of 1970 was more than 198 million Marks (by 1975 a turnover of 750 million Marks is expected) he considers a credit limit of "eighty to one hundred million Marks" sufficient for today, so that he can keep potential interested parties hammering at the door without having to let them in.

Nixdorf is endowed with the dourness of people who come from Westphalia. In his case this is connected with keen intelligence and a monumental, but carefully controlled impulse for action.

He finds it hard to credit that one of the big-boys would made a bid for his "little computers".

Heinz Nixdorf has carefully aimed his product at a gap on the market that needed to be filled and he has hit the target dead centre.

"That we should ever belong to another firm? — the opposite case is far more likely!"

Cooperation is not something that Heinz Nixdorf rejects out of hand. It is as a result of cooperative efforts that he made his beginning and took the first steps on the road to success.

His pioneering electronic calculating machine, which he developed in 1953, was marketed under the trade name "Bull" by the French firm of that name. And this principle of cooperation is something to which he still adhered nine years later when he produced his first electronic table-top adding machine.

This unique machine, the first of its kind in the world, was brand named "Wanderer Conti".

By the time we come to the Hanover Trade Fair of 1965 the business had been built up into Nixdorf International Computers and no less than 820 products made their first bow.

Then, and since then, Heinz Nixdorf's company has been offering a permanent challenge to the top electronic calculating and data-prodessing machine manufacturers all over the world, including the United States which is considered to be the home of the computer.

He also does business in the United States where his products are marketed under the name "Victor", which must have been prophetic when it was chosen and is still portentous!

At the 1965 Hanover Fair the products were still being marketed under the name "Wanderer Longatronic". But soon after that the "Wanderer" firm belonged to Heinz Nixdorf.

Today around forty computers emerge each day from his factories. The total number of electronic calculating machines to have been produced by the firm is something like 20,000!

The top man in the Federal Republic computer industries intends to pursue the cooperative policy in the future, working on the lines of "we've got the know-how — you've got the market".

He asked: "Why shouldn't two or even three parent companies get together in a marriage or perhaps a *ménage à trois* in order to produce a bonny bouncing subsidiary?"

Only eighteen years have elapsed since Heinz Nixdorf, the student, set up the basic laboratory for electronic impulse techniques which was to form the basis of his present concern, thus defying the teacher at his high-school who had predicted for him a career as a mathematician.

Since then the laboratory has evolved into a limited company. In fact the success of his enterprise even prevented him from completing his university career with a diploma.

From semester to semester he himself earned the money to pay for his physics studies.

He came into contact with the electronics researcher Dr Walter Sprick, who like him came from the Paderborn area and was working at the time for an American firm in Frankfurt.

Today he has far exceeded his mentor with regard to business success, but he still speaks very highly and with very great respect for Dr Sprick, who is now working for the American computer concern IBM.

Heinz Nixdorf still remembers how he travelled across country on a mo-ped with his head full of the knowledge he had gleaned from Dr Sprick.

He startled more than one head of a large company with his proud statement: "I can build you an electronic calculating machine."

And he remembers how many words he had to waste before at long last someone was convinced of the substance of his proud boast. The top executives of the *Rheinisch-Westphälische Elektrizitätswerke* (RWE) at long last realised that this student bursting with knowledge and self-confidence must have a point and granted him 30,000 Marks and a room in which to work.

Thus the first Nixdorf computer was born.

Heinz Nixdorf would not have been a true Paderbornian if he had not returned to his home town, which is often accused of being a backwater. He returned as the "local boy makes good".

And thus the computers that bear his name and are now famous all over the world have done their bit towards putting Paderborn on the international map.

Provincialism — this is an accusation that Heinz Nixdorf rejects whenever it is levelled at his native Paderborn. He says it is prejudiced and says so with great fervour.

For a start he considers it is far better for people to spend their leisure hours in the freedom of a place like Paderborn. It is a better place to settle and raise a family than the anonymity and bustle of the big cities where people are indifferent to each other.

One project that fills him with enthusiasm is the much talked-about Pader



Heinz Nixdorf
(Photo: NIXDORF COMPUTER AG)

Lake, which has been planned for years and now seems likely to come into being. It will have banks stretching for nearly two kilometres and be right on the doorstep of the new data-processing school that Nixdorf is having built on the edge of town at a cost of twenty million Marks.

In fact an innocent observer might gain the impression that he is talking with the local sports instructor rather than the head of a flourishing concern in one of the newest branches of industry.

Apart from the computers that are his life Heinz Nixdorf's greatest passion is playing tennis.

There is more than a grain of truth in the joke that circulated round his company just before he made a business trip to America that he sent his tennis racquet on ahead and said to himself: "... tomorrow I'll be playing in Manhattan!"

In his computer company the way to the boss is not via an ante-room where his secretary sits typing. In fact his secretary does her typing in another part of the building complex and is shared with another member of the board.

Herr Nixdorf is not only the chairman of the board in his company but also supervises production and design.

Any member of the firm who wishes to talk to him can usually do so without having to go through any other channels. The boss is directly accessible.

The furniture in his office is not spectacular. He sits at the same kind of desk as any secretary in the firm and the conference table together with half-a-dozen leather chairs is right next to a workshop! The workshop where the design and development team operates.

Hans Stollhaus

(DIE WELT, 3 December 1970)

We shall have TV wherever we go!

Second television sets are becoming more popular. Those who are lucky enough to be able to afford a colour receiver are finding that it is worthwhile to have a black-and-white box in reserve so that the complicated piece of machinery that is a colour TV is not overtaxed by too frequent use.

For this reason most televiewers keep their old monochrome box when they make the switch to a colour television set.

One rather more elaborate solution to the television problem is to buy a portable set so that the viewer need not miss his favourite programme even when he is away from home or out with the family. This can of course be used in the home as well if desired.

A portable solves the problem for a harassed husband who wants to slink away and watch the sports review while his wife and children view a sentimental film. Or conversely a wife who is plagued by husband and son who insist on watching the Federal League football reports can pick up the lightweight portable and take it to the bedroom or bathroom and watch something more to her taste. Two TV sets make for a happy home.

Problems arise, however, when people from this country go abroad on holiday and hope to receive their favourite programmes on the portable. Unfortunately wavelengths differ from country to country and it is often only possible to receive local programmes.

Now Philips have taken the first step on the way to universal TV reception. The portable model *Philetta Luxus* has a special programme selector for reception of the second Italian television channel.

This set is so tiny that it can be packed conveniently in the boot of an ordinary family saloon car or on the back seat.

The picture on the miniature screen is as sharp as could be hoped for and the power consumption of the set, a mere 18 watts is only one third as much as is required for car headlights.

The set can be converted from mains to battery operation and with push-button programme selection and noiseless Mesa-transistors it is one of the most up-to-date pieces of electronic equipment on the market.

A built-in telescopic aerial antenna means that the set can be used in any confined space without resorting to a roof aerial.

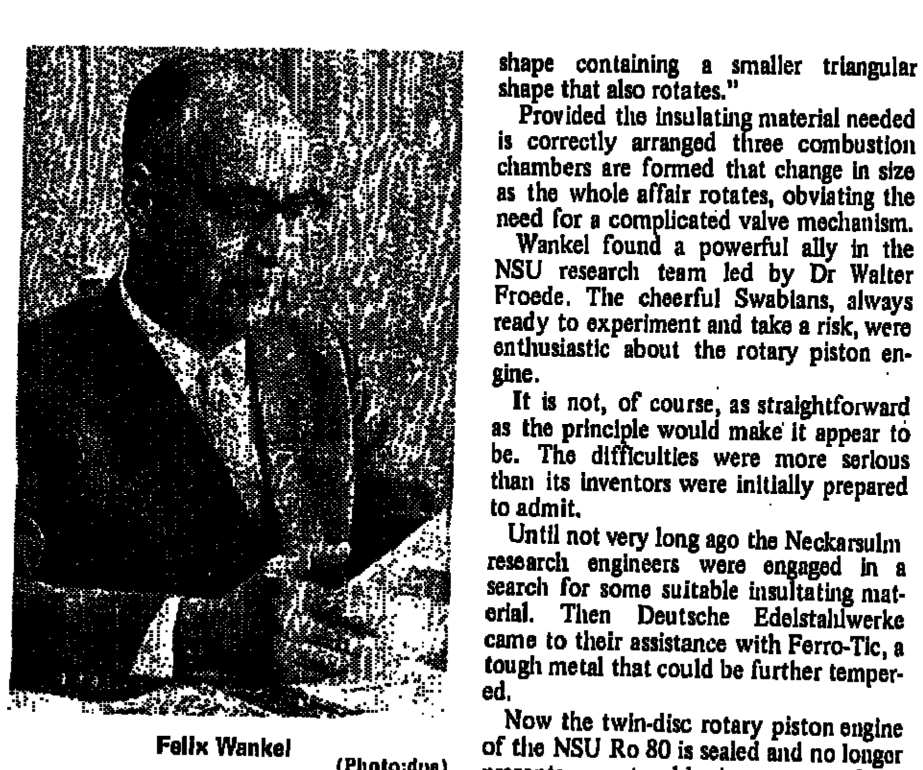
Germans will find it a great joy to follow television programmes from other countries while they are on holiday. All good television programmes after all lay the emphasis on creating the greatest effect on the pictorial side and so it is not all that important if the viewer cannot understand the language of the broadcast.

What better way to spend your holidays than making a critical comparison between the quality of programmes in other countries and those in the Federal Republic?

(Hannoversche Presse, 21 November 1970)

TECHNOLOGY

Royalties from Wankel licences continue to increase



Felix Wankel (Photo:dpa)

Nothing is new under the sun, the saying goes, and there is some truth in it. Even technological developments have a past history. In drawing a distinction between the piston engine and the rotary engine it must be admitted that even the Wankel engine has its predecessors.

It too is merely a further development of an old idea. Ramelli designed a rotary-pistoned water pump in 1588 and two hundred years later James Watt also planned to construct a rotary engine but proved unable to seal off the combustion chambers.

The four-stroke engine has been the shape of things to come ever since Christian Huygens invented the gunpowder engine in 1673, but it has its limitations, both mechanical and physical.

New engines had to be developed: steam turbines for shipping and combustion turbines for aviation. Will turbines prove the answer for motor vehicles? Trials are in progress but it seems as though the idea will not work.

The snag is that turbines start being an economic proposition at rev counts at which a motor car would part company with terra firma and start to fly. That, of course, will never do.

Then Felix Wankel had his brainwave. "The superimposition of two turning movements that together make a trochoid," he discovered, "is the design of an engine consisting of a rotating arena shape containing a smaller triangular shape that also rotates."

Provided the insulating material needed is correctly arranged three combustion chambers are formed that change in size as the whole affair rotates, obviating the need for a complicated valve mechanism.

Wankel found a powerful ally in the NSU research team led by Dr Walter Froede. The cheerful Swabians, always ready to experiment and take a risk, were enthusiastic about the rotary piston engine.

It is not, of course, as straightforward as the principle would make it appear to be. The difficulties were more serious than its inventors were initially prepared to admit.

Until not very long ago the Neckarsulm research engineers were engaged in a search for some suitable insulating material. Then Deutsche Edelstahlwerke came to their assistance with Ferro-Tic, a tough metal that could be further tempered.

Now the twin-disc rotary piston engine of the NSU Ro 80 is sealed and no longer presents any trouble in respect of exhaust. Development work has cost Wankel and NSU, mainly NSU, of course, fifty million Marks.

Yet although the number of Wankel licencees is steadily on the increase the world is still not at the door of either Wankel in Lindau or NSU of Neckarsulm.

And despite the 180 million Marks invested in the Wankel engine by General Motors the rotary engine is only in series production for motor vehicles in Neckarsulm and Japan.

Even at Daimler-Benz scepticism about the rotary piston engine is still so considerable that the Mercedes 111 prototype is more likely to end in a museum than on the production line.

At Fiat, Renault, BMW and Ford no one cares two hoots about the rotary piston engine. It is felt to have not the slightest prospect of success. This annoys Dr Wankel no end even though he has every reason to be satisfied. His company earns forty per cent of the proceeds of every licence transaction.

It all began in October 1958. Curtiss-Wright of America bought the first licence. Now, twelve years later, nineteen firms are engaged in development work on the Wankel engine. It would have been 21 but VVB of the GDR and Perkins of England have withdrawn from the race.

Even so, last year's licence profits amounted to 4,399,993.72 Marks, forty per cent of which – exactly 1,759,997.49 Marks – was booked by Wankel's own company.

Apart from General Motors licencees have paid roughly eighty million Marks all told for the privilege of working on the rotary engine. Licence fees per engine manufactured have so far amounted to approximately a further thirty million, a sum that increases with every Wankel engine made.

Wankel and NSU are not the only people who are earning money from the idea either. There are also the former NSU shareholders who were issued with preferential stock when NSU merged with Auto Union.

At the final annual meeting of NSU shareholders on 24 June 1970 the dividend was not increased. In return 1,740,000 of these special shares were issued to shareholders in the old company.

"We no longer need to knock doors open; they open automatically for us," Audi-NSU director Dr Günter Henn, 45, enthuses. Congratulations, one can but say, but don't count your chickens before they are hatched.

Wankel licencees

Curtiss-Wright, USA
Fichtel & Sachs, Federal Republic
Janmar Diesel, Japan
Toyo Kogyo, Japan
Klöckner-Humboldt-Deutz, Federal Republic
Daimler-Benz, Federal Republic
MAN, Federal Republic
Krupp's, Federal Republic
Alfa Romeo, Italy
Rolls Royce, Britain
Porsche, Federal Republic
Outboard Marine, USA
Comotor, Luxembourg
Graupner, Federal Republic
Savkel, Israel
Nissan Motor, Japan
General Motors, USA
Suzuki, Japan

Each success brings with it an additional burden. What matters is what General Motors make of the rotary engine. It is also important that the Comotor Wankel engine project, jointly sponsored by NSU and Citroën, runs off the assembly line in 1972 as planned.

As yet the Wankel engine is to be found in almost every sector more than it is in the car industry. Even Wankel himself has designed not a car engine but the motor for a reasonably-priced motor boat. But then he is not a car-owner.

Even so, Felix Wankel has proved that he is a far-sighted man when it comes to technological developments and his genius has made him a millionaire. Alongside Daimler, Benz and Rasmussen he occupies a place of honour in German automobile history's hall of fame.

Kurt W. Reinschild
(WELT am SONNTAG, 29 November 1970)

Turncoat taxis

Black taxis will soon be a thing of the past on roads in this country. As of next spring the new colour will be light ivory, the reason given being that it is safest.

The real reason is probably different. Taxi drivers spend an average of ten hours a day on the road and in view of the intolerable heat in the cabs of black vehicles during the summer their wish for a change is understandable enough.

As is always the case there is another side to the coin. Some drivers are pleased at the prospect of cooler work in summer. Others are worried that they will no longer be called on at funeral services.

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 29 November 1970)

Daimler-Benz should put more effort into the VS

Daimler-Benz take their time and it has taken some time for the company to decide to introduce a standard eight-cylinder engine in addition to the V 8 of the showpiece Mercedes 600.

For roughly a year now the 280 saloon and convertible have been available with a V 8 engine. An inconspicuous 3.5 on the boot bears witness to 3.5 litres of piston displacement and 200 horse power.

The satisfaction of having such a powerful engine under the bonnet is an expensive business, though, at least as far as the purchase price is concerned. Thirty thousand Marks is the minimum. Mercedes prefer to be exclusive.

The new engine is a sight for sore eyes, though. The smaller version of the V 8 is without any doubt the best motor engine manufactured in this country at the moment.

Thanks to its substantial cubic capacity and fuel injection it is so flexible in its response and so willing to run at a high rev count that driving it gives more pleasure as each day passes.

Without so much as a shudder the needle of the rev counter soars up to more than 6,000 rpm without the engine showing the slightest sign of strain or even hard work. The total lack of vibration is itself a pleasure.

No matter how hard the driver is on the gears the engine is not taken out of its stride, continuing to purr gently. It is such a civilised engine that every other Mercedes engine is barbaric in comparison.

What is more, the eight-cylinder engine is, in comparison with Mercedes standards, astonishingly thrifty. Regardless whether the test vehicle was driven flat out on the autobahn at around 125 mph or in city or cross-country traffic it refused to pass the twenty-litre mark (20 l per 100 km or 14.1 miles per Imperial gallon).

Over a total distance of 2,500 miles average fuel consumption was 16.95 litres of super, or not quite seventeen miles per gallon.

The test vehicle was, of course, freshly tuned by the works but even if the odd mile or so is docked from this figure the fuel consumption is not dissimular from that of many six-cylinder Mercedes engines in practice.

Daimler-Benz have, as it were, set themselves an example by which forthcoming Mercedes engines will be measured. It is no secret that Daimler-Benz engines and gearboxes are no longer fully up to date. The six-cylinder series engines have apparently reached their peak.

At times they tend to overheat and use a rather large quantity of oil, a drawback that can only be offset by resorting to expensive special piston rings. The 2.2-litre four-cylinder engine is acknowledged not to run too smoothly either.

This does not accord with Mercedes image – an image that the Mercedes amply justifies in other respects.

As far as the smaller Mercedes are concerned chassis development has reached a point at which no further progress is possible. The bodywork too has been perfected as regards safety considerations.

The arrival of the first small V 8 from Daimler-Benz has as a matter of course drawn attention to Mercedes engines which relatively speaking are outdated.

The indications are that work is under way at Daimler-Benz's Untertürkheim, Stuttgart, works to remedy this state of affairs. It may not be next year but the year after next before the new 280 makes its appearance but when it does a new engine will without doubt be the burning question.

In the entire Mercedes range is to be reshuffled serious consideration should be given to making more use of the small V 8.

The top flight of European limousines could well be fitted with eight-cylinder engines and by international standards a saloon as large and heavy as the Mercedes 280 can hardly be said to boast too powerful an engine.

A new range of six- and eight-cylinder engines could be the answer and although Daimler-Benz are bound to bear in mind the hierarchical requirements of government and management an eight-cylinder engine ought not nowadays to cost a minimum of 30,000 Marks.

It seems fairly certain that variations on the V 8 theme, engines of 4.5 litres and more, are undergoing trials at Daimler-Benz. Were carburettor and injection models to be marketed at one and the same time, as has always been usual at Daimler-Benz, the numbers produced ought to keep the additional expense of a V 8 engine down to a tolerable level.

There is absolutely no reason why the V 8 engine should remain the privilege of the de luxe category in Europe today and who is in a better position than Daimler-Benz to introduce the V 8 in the de luxe family saloon category?

Peter Klinkenberg
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 28 November 1970)

AVIATION

BO 105 helicopter is given the production go-ahead

The granting of a series production permit to the Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm Bo 105 helicopter represents one of the major successes notched up by the aircraft industry in this country since the war.

One reason why this is the case is that it will be the first helicopter to be built in a long run since aircraft production recommenced in the Federal Republic in 1955.

Helicopters were built in this country before and during the war and the Focke-Achgelis Fa 61, which was first unveiled in Berlin's Deutschlandhalle, made aircraft history.

Helicopters are far more expensive to develop than comparable rigid-wing aircraft. This is why no previous post-war designs ever went into series production. The first helicopter to be built after this country regained sovereignty over its airspace in 1955 was the Kolibri, which incidentally is the German word for humming bird.

Designed by Borgward in Bremen, it started flight trials in 1959, not long before Borgward shut down.

Dornier too experimented with helicopters. The miniature Do 32 was the first helicopter with rotor-tip propulsion. Compressed air is channelled to jets at the end of the rotor blades by means of a turbine-powered compressor.

The recoil energy turns the rotors much in the same way as a lawn sprinkler is turned. Unfortunately, however, the Do 32 left the drawing-board but never made the assembly-line.

A new rotor design, essential for the future of the helicopter, was developed by Bölkow too. The Derschmidt rotor, as it is called, reached the trial stage while Bölkow was still an independent operator.

An extremely complex design in both aerodynamic and mechanical terms, the Derschmidt rotor has blade sections that swing forwards and backwards and largely offset the usual asymmetry of airflow.

In theory Derschmidt-rotored helicopters ought to be capable of speeds of up to 500 knots and practical tests were commenced with the Bo 46 experimental helicopter but subsequently abandoned as too complicated.

In the meantime far less complicated solutions to the problem of making helicopters capable of higher speeds hove into sight. The Bo 105's rigid rotor has taken them into account.

The designation rigid rotor refers to the fact that the usual joints that make rotor blades more flexible are not part of the design. With a top speed of 180 miles an hour the Bo 105 is unquestionably a cut above the conventional helicopter.

It is less complicated and so less prone to defects requiring servicing and its flight behaviour is little different from that of a normal aircraft.

For safety reasons the Bo 105 as the only helicopter weighing two tons is twin-engined. The range of uses to which it can be put includes both a six-seat transporter and a rescue craft capable of accommodating two stretchers in its roomy fuselage.

In view of the size of the American market the purchase of US licence rights by Boeing Vertol is more than a mere matter of prestige. Japanese and Italian manufacturers have also shown interest in purchasing licence rights.

Peter Raube
(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 29 November 1970)



The BO 105 helicopter
(Photo: Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm, Freigabe Reg. v. Oberbayern Nr. GS 82/1290)

Aerospace programme shifts interest to civilian projects

This country's aircraft industry is a dwarf in comparison with its counterpart in the United States but in terms of hard cash it is far from mini. It calculates in terms of thousands of millions of Marks and the government readily lends a hand to keep the 50,000 people who work in the industry employed.

The only unrealistic factor is the relationship between the number of aircraft designed and developed and the number that actually go into production.

The government support programme for the next five years is aimed to bring about a fair number of changes but more particularly intended to alter the ratio of military to civilian projects.

At present the ratio is 80:20 in favour of military projects. By 1975 it is hoped that the industry will strike an even balance, working fifty per cent on military projects and fifty per cent on civilian developments.

At the moment all major aerospace projects are either commissioned and financed by the Defence or Science Ministry or supported by grants made by the Ministry of Economic Affairs. Government policy decisions are thus of crucial importance for the industry.

One urgent task is the coordination of military and civilian projects so as to guarantee optimum utilisation of the technological knowledge gained. The best current example is the work on vertical take-off aircraft being carried out by three domestic manufacturers.

The two major projects in hand are the multi-role combat aircraft (MRCA, the new European jet fighter) and the A 300 B European airbus. Work on both will continue until the mid- or late seventies, development work on the airbus until 1974 and R & D of the MRCA until 1977 or 1978.

Work on the airbus that is being carried out in this country involves contracts worth roughly 700 million Marks. An estimated 2,000 million are to be invested in the MRCA. All major Federal Republic manufacturers are involved.

Over the next five years the government is planning to spend between 2,250 and 2,650 million Marks on civil, military and aerospace work.

This year domestic work on military projects amounted to 550 million Marks, including manufacture of the Transall transport plane, the Starfighter jet and the CH 53 helicopter.

In the years to come the proportion spent on these projects will decline sharply. Work in the civilian sector has been predominated by the airbus and the VFW 614, Germany's first commercial jet. A forty-seater, the 614 is to roll off the assembly line in 1973.

All space projects represent a share in international programmes. They include the third stage of the Eldo launcher rocket, the Franco-Federal Republic experimental telecommunications satellite Symphonie and the solar probe Helios, on which this country is cooperating with the United States.

Development costs borne by this country are estimated at around 250 million Marks.

Ute Lieske
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 4 December 1970)

Cars still tops at century's end

In the year 2000 the motor car will still be the major means of transport, the tram will be a thing of the past, electric town cars will still be wishful thinking and finding somewhere to park will be the main traffic problem.

These are the conclusions reached in a scientific study on Traffic Developments in Federal Republic Cities carried out at Munich University of Technology by Professor Karlheinz Schächterle, head of the department of transport and town planning.

The trend away from public transport and to the private car can no longer be stopped, at best retarded by a first-rate network of underground and suburban electric railways.

According to Professor Schächterle trams are definitely on the way out even though public transport still caters for well over fifty per cent of rush-hour traffic. As the number of passengers conveyed declines public transport will necessarily come to lose the importance it once had. The trend to a car of one's own is irreversible.

A city, the report maintains, grows as fast as means of transport allow it to. Despite traffic congestion, Professor Schächterle still feels that the private car is in effect the swiftest means of transport.

Private cars allow the outer suburbs from which commuters stream into the city to work to be sited further and further out. The motor car will continue for the remainder of this century to determine the character of urban planning.

When city centres are no longer inhabited but merely workplaces the amount of traffic is bound to increase still further. The average distance covered per car per year is on the decline but congestion is still on the increase.

In a number of years one household in five will own two cars. The trend, Schächterle says, is towards more powerful and more comfortable cars. An electric town car that is both easy to manoeuvre and space-saving will thus be doomed to failure for at least the next ten or fifteen years.

Pedestrian precincts may be a good way of inducing suburb-dwellers to shop in the city centre but they are not going to come unless there are adequate parking facilities nearby.

Easily accessible underground or multi-storey car parks reduce the number of cars cruising around in a desperate search for somewhere to park. City-centre parking facilities ought, however, to be reserved principally for motorists parking for short periods only.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 28 November 1970)

Public transport refutes ADAC claims

The car-orientated city the ADAC is apparently always dreaming of is mere wishful thinking, a declaration published in Cologne by the Public Transport Association states.

Replying to a claim by ADAC, the country's largest motoring organisation, that the motor car will remain the main means of transport in the year 2000 the association emphasises that urban traffic problems can only be solved by considerably increasing the efficiency and attractiveness of public transport.

A first-rate network of underground and suburban electric railways and a closely interlocking bus system are, it stated, essential in order to induce as many motorists as possible to travel by public transport.

Buses must also be kept on the move by being provided with traffic lanes of their own and other priorities.

The problem of finding somewhere to park in the city centre cannot, it continued, be solved by providing space for even more cars. This puts both road-users and their safety, not to mention the flow of life in the city, at a disadvantage.

The association also refutes the ADAC's claim that fewer people used public transport last year. In 1969, the report states, 3.1 per cent more passengers were conveyed by public transport undertakings than the year before.

In the first nine months of 1970 an increase in the number of passengers carried of 4.7 per cent over the corresponding period of 1969 has been registered.

(Hannoversche Presse, 3 December 1970)



■ NARCOTICS

Twilight world of dope addicts discussed in West Berlin

Frankfurter Allgemeine

The problem of drugs looms like an iceberg in our society. The tip that is visible leads the general public to abhorrence and emotional rejection rather than rational consideration and decisive action.

An estimated 99 per cent of problems that arise from the misuse of narcotics are not considered rationally nor is their capacity to change our civilisation adequately comprehended. At a meeting of the Evangelical Academy in the Wannsee district of Berlin it was made obvious that most data on the subject are still not known and those that are have still not been spread among the general public.

Three doctors and an author demonstrated what they had learned about those medicaments and their derivatives that affect the central nervous system and interrupt the working of the brain and thereby the human conscious temporarily.

They said that it is essential to make a clear division between the Indian hemp drugs, hashish and cannabis on the one hand, and the opiates and hallucinogens.

The two groups are linked by a kind of staircase and the possibilities of a drug-taker who starts on hashish first of all becoming dependent and then turning to more dangerous drugs such as the opiates is only slowly becoming clear and is still clouded by many doubts.

Dr Hünnekens from Hamm estimated that the number of hashish smokers who turn to more dangerous drugs is around thirty per cent, but stressed that cannabis on its own does not lead to addiction.

Dr Hünnekens and Dr Stüving from Schleswig discussed the concepts they had developped in recent years and the attempts to rehabilitate modern day drug addicts who are a far cry from the old days of grandfather's addiction which was to barbiturates and other drugs prescribed by the medical profession.

It is above all the young, even very young, people who become dependent on opiates, and get into the vicious circle of addiction.

All previous methods of drug education and treatment have failed, the quota of those that have been cured but revert to their old ways is high and incessant reports of deaths shock the public and dull their reaction mechanisms.

The two doctors in Schleswig and Hamm are now testing new methods of helping people over their addiction. Stüving's clinic has 45 beds. His programme for curing the 20 to 25-year-olds lasts six months. Four groups of addicts work jointly so that individual patients are largely accepted as they are, with or without beards and long hair.

The patients are given their course of treatment between eight in the morning and five in the afternoon every day. They are told all the details of their addiction and why they have fallen prey to it. In time they develop insight into their sickness.

They are given a course of work therapy with sport, games, work and discussions and in this way Dr Stüving keeps his patients in trim.

After their dismissal they are encouraged to keep up contacts with the department. The experiment is still in its infancy but when asked about the success of his treatment Dr Stüving tends to be pessimistic.

Dr Hünnekens is more optimistic. His experiment in Hamm takes place in a clinic with only seven beds. His patients are all voluntary, whereas Dr Stüving is not averse to taking patients that have been advised by courts or other authorities to have treatment.

The method used by Dr Hünnekens is to whip the patients into action only after a certain time. At the beginning of the course he allows them to stew in their own juice.

Here too he tries to give his patients insight into their sickness and the problems of their life. Yoga and a sauna bath are offered as substitutes for the experiences of drug-taking. In Hamm he has found a group of townspeople who have shown an interest in helping him with his treatments. He has set up a centre for patients who are not allowed to go back home.

Schoolchildren and teachers have got together to help other schoolchildren and to educate parents.

The Hünnekens' plan has been going for six months. Doctors are not concerning themselves with reefer smokers since they would need a whole block of houses to accommodate them. According to Dr Hünnekens the positive aspects of hashish should not be swept aside but harmless substitutes should be found for them.

Dr Barth from the Bonhöffer Clinic in Berlin repeats her warning that has often been published. Around 200 addicts of the opiates and sufferers from more than one drug addiction have passed through her hands. Positive results have been almost nil. All three doctors complain that drug addicts have to be treated in mental hospitals along with alcoholics and psychotics. There are still few special departments for their tricky sickness and very few trained nurses and doctors to treat sufferers.

Calls to the government and general public for aid echo down the corridors of bureaucracy but remain unheeded.

The increase in drug-taking

Author Reimar Lenz sees "the medicines of awareness" as he calls narcotics from a completely different perspective. He complains about the hysterical reaction of the public to drug taking and considers that those who take narcotics in reasonable doses are gaining experience and not just messing about.

This brings about a dangerous anti-drug reaction among members of the public with the warning voices fleeing in the face of reality, the reality being a rapidly rising consumption of narcotics.

He claims that this hysteria drives young people to take overdoses and fall prey to addiction. At the moment it is quite incomprehensible that a family should sit down at Christmas and smoke hash. But if the mother of the family breaks out in tears at the very mention of drugs a lost cause is being fought.

"Normal life" has been since 1914 just a neurosis that has been forced upon us. We will lose young people if we work with them. Experts are treating the subject from a purely behaviouristic point of view and do not understand the problem with all its cultural ramifications.

Reports of disasters involving people who have taken drugs did no more to help the uninformed grasp the situation than a report of traffic accidents would help someone to understand all that was involved in travelling.

The human being who is caught up in the purple haze of psychedelia is more sensitive and suffers more. The experiences a man would gain from few nights under the effects of a small dose of mescalin would add so greatly to his range of experience and knowledge that he could feed on this for a lifetime.

Parochialism of awareness has been destroyed and it is not just by chance that LSD was discovered as the same time as the splitting of the atom.

He claimed that the problem is only made graver when it is simply connected with measurably social difficulties. Strangely enough the comparatively crude and unproductive narcotic alcohol is permitted in European culture despite its more serious consequences for society. New narcotic habits are being introduced here which are not traditionally European but which have been quite common for some time in other cultures.

The danger for young people which was as apparent for Lenz as it was for the doctors present must be fought by means of enlightenment, tolerance and liberalism.

Hanno Kühnen

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 20 November 1970)

TV time

No other leisure time activity quite takes up people's time in this country as does watching television.

On average people in the Federal Republic sleep for 3,000 hours in a year, work for 2,000 hours and watch television for 1,000 hours.

28.2 per cent of the people asked in a survey conducted by this country's night school association said that they did nothing but watch television in their leisure hours.

According to a survey conducted by the Allensbach market research institute over the last 17 years people have been going to bed one hour later than they usually did because they sat up watching television.

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 29 November 1970)

Allegations of opium mixed with hash investigated by experts

Participants at a narcotics symposium in Berlin on 19 November, organised by the Federal Republic Society for Psychology of the Young, have called on the Bonn Health Ministry to investigate allegations that recently dope pushers have been mixing opium in with hashish.

About fifty leading scientists, doctors, psychologists, educationists, lawyers, welfare officers and Church officials from all over the Federal Republic took part in the conference. They exchanged experiences and the results of research, but on the question of whether Indian hemp drugs are being contaminated with more insidious narcotics opinions were divided.

According to Dr Kleiner of the Wiesengrund Psychiatric Clinic in Berlin, his investigations into samples of "hash" had in no case revealed any opium content.

Recent reports have stated that drug pushers have been deliberately polluting reefers with opium in order to make their clients dependent on the drug.

Even many of the young people who experiment with "soft" drugs have been reporting suspicions that hash has been contamined with addictive drugs. They claim that non-addictive soft drugs have been getting a hold on them, which would not have happened if these were pure.

However, according to Dr Kleiner and other scientists, these young know-alls were obviously not aware of the difference between the effect of undiluted hashish, something that is rarely to be found on the black market, and the far more common form of cannabis which is watered down with other substances.

Similar conclusions have been reached by all criminal investigation departments in the Federal Republic, which have been carrying out a series of investigations for the central criminal office.

Two-hundred analyses of samples of hashish were carried out by the police, but none of the samples was found to contain addictive drugs.

In Berlin, however, four cases of polluted hashish were found.

According to doctors and pharmacologists there is some doubt whether the raw opium that is often smoked in this country, as opposed to specially prepared smoking opium which is rare in the Federal Republic, has any noticeable effect.

A police spokesman said at the conference that by far the greater number of narcotics that are sold on the West Berlin black market are smuggled in through the East.

He said that visitors from abroad arrive at East Berlin's Schönefeld airport with suitcases packed with drugs. They place these in a left-luggage locker and walk through the customs into West Berlin "clean". Later they return to the eastern sector and sell the dope to middle-men who smuggle it into West Berlin in small quantities on the S-Bahn (metropolitan railway).

According to police this method of exploiting the free inter-zone traffic in Berlin is so cleverly worked out and confusing that the police are virtually powerless to do anything about it.

Another factor that was revealed at this conference was that the use of heroin was increasing.

In Frankfurt seventy drug-takers out of 300 interviewed admitted that they had taken heroin, which is regarded as the most dangerous of all drugs, according to Dr Warnke of the Frankfurt University Nerve Clinic.

Other cities did not have such high percentages to report, but experts reckon that the circulation and consumption of heroin in the twilight world of drug-takers is increasing.

In the face of these disturbing facts Dr Warnke called for a nation-wide study of the production and use of heroin and similar addictive drugs.

Participants at the conference maintained that the misuse of medicines was increasing everywhere, including the East Bloc countries. In the German Democratic Republic there was already a widespread interest in books and pamphlets dealing with drugs and drug-taking.

Karl-Friedrich Theill

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 21 November 1970)

■ SPORT

75 years of the Olympic spirit

Seventy-five years have passed since the Olympic movement in this country was inaugurated on 13 December 1895. One of the first and foremost of its kind, the German Olympic movement in its early days represented a counter-balance to Baron Coubertin's Franco-British alliance.

Over the years this country has organised 22 Olympic teams consisting of a total of 2,670 athletes, including the only European team to go to St Louis in 1904, has won 119 gold medals and six times hosted the International Olympic Committee.

The story of these 75 years represents a piece of contemporary history, a cultural document and a tribute to the men who made Olympic history.

The forty gymnasts and athletes who met that December evening in the Vier Jahreszeiten Hotel, Berlin, to consider whether or not Germany should send a team to the Athens Olympics the following April made a daring decision.

In those days sport was felt to be an English madness. Realisation that political enmity must be cast aside in order to bring the countries of Europe closer together was as uncommon in Berlin as in London and Paris.

Pierre de Coubertin (1861-1937) wanted to boost French morale and paradoxically enough his idea of resurrecting the Olympic Games of Ancient Greece gave rise both to patriotic feeling and to the ideal transcending national frontiers. Coubertin lit the Olympic flame. Others relayed it on. One of these others, perhaps the most important one during the period between 1895 and 1905, was Berlin chemist and physician Dr Willibald Carl August Gebhardt (1862-1921), the man behind the December 1895 meeting.

Gebhardt, who was already aware of the potential social uses of sport and the biological function of physical training, had vision of the finished product despite the small beginnings. He opened up a new sporting dimension, one that many of his fellow-countrymen long failed to grasp.

He had clear visions of a German Gymnastics and Sports League and well-prepared German teams being sent to the Olympics but failed in practice to bring about an amalgamation of the various sports associations in Kaiser Wilhelm's Germany.

What Gebhardt unquestionably did do, however, was to fund the international Olympic movement with the Central European capital represented by Germany's most proficient athletes.

Together with gymnastics official Fritz Hofman (1871-1927), whose role has been completely neglected by historians, Dr Gebhardt showed up the "patriotic outlook" of the German Gymnastics Association for what it was.

The gymnasts viewed sport less as physical education than as para-military training and preferred tattoos to competition. In the fight against Gebhardt and his ideas the gymnasts outdid one another in unfairness for years.

It is to the credit of the Carl Diem Institute of Cologne that the major documents of early Olympic history in this country have finally been made available to the general public after three quarters of a century.

The German Gymnastics Association, for nearly fifty years the largest sports association in the world, did not give up its opposition to the Olympic idea until it was forced to do so by Hitler in 1934.

Forty years after the first modern Olympics German gymnasts were entered for the Berlin Olympics with the non-dissent of their governing body for the first time. This was the first real success the association could claim in its entire history.

Dr Gebhardt, who was for a time associated with Carl Peters, the African explorer, enjoyed the indirect support of Reich Chancellor Prince Chlodwig of Hohenlohe-Schillingsfürst, who had his son appointed first chairman of the National Olympic Committee and so gave the body the seal of respectability.

The house of Hohenzollern was by no means uninterested in the Olympic idea, as the proficiency and ambitions of Prince Friedrich Karl of Prussia proved, but because of tradition unable to show more than good will.

Prince Friedrich Karl, a member of the 1912 bronze medal-winning team in his own discipline, ought, as probably the best exponent of the modern pentathlon of his day, to have won a medal outright but his father had not allowed him to do so. "A Prince of Hohenzollern does not run," the family ruled.

In 1900 Dr Gebhardt took a team of 74 to Paris and four years later a further 23 gymnasts and athletes to St Louis. Both Games were detrimental to the movement, though, and the Berlin doctor came to be an inexorable critic of Coubertin.

It was at Gebhardt's insistence that the arrangements for the 1908 London and 1912 Stockholm Olympics were improved.

Too far ahead of his time to be understood by his colleagues, Dr Gebhardt resigned from the NOC in 1906 and from the IOC in 1909, but not before the foundations had been laid for the first IOC session in Germany and the 1916 Olympics in Berlin.

Count Egbert Hoyer von der Asseburg, a general raised to the nobility by the reigning Kaiser, completed the process of development by organising the NOC along its present lines.

He was succeeded by Victor von Podbielski, the Prussian Minister of Education, who became the father-figure of sport in imperial Germany. Count Adalbert von Sierstorpff, who died in Eltville in 1922, popularised the idea of winter Olympics and was the first to advocate making the NOC a permanent body.

Asseburg called for an all-German sporting forum in 1906 and was largely responsible for a start being made. Podbielski raised the funds for the building of the Olympics Stadium in Grunewald forest, Berlin, which was inaugurated on 8 June 1913.

"So far we have demanded a stadium; now it is making demands on us," commented 31-year-old Carl Diem at the time and the comment was widely echoed.

Carl Diem was a major advocate of the Olympic movement in Germany. Together with Theodor Lewald, who first came into contact with sport at the age of forty in 1900 when he raised funds for the German Olympic team as deputy to Dr Max Richter, German commissioner at the Paris world fair, Diem carried out a programme of domestic reform and set about establishing international contacts.

The First World War interrupted his work but did not put a stop to it. Between 1919 and 1926 sport was consolidated at home and Germany, cut off from international contacts, took some time to respond to the call of the Olympics.

It was not until full international sporting contacts were resumed in 1926 that unprejudiced enthusiasm gave sport



the boost that led to the German team coming second only to the United States at the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics.

On 22 May 1930 Berlin again applied to host the Olympics, 21 years after the first application, which had come to naught on account of the First World War. In 1931 Berlin was given the go-ahead by an IOC vote of 43 in favour to sixteen against.

Political and above all economic difficulties were to make matters slightly more difficult than had been anticipated, however. Hitler's take-over even made it appear doubtful whether Lewald and Diem's Berlin Olympics would ever be held.

In the end propaganda considerations won the day, though. The Nazis had no time for the internationalism of sport any more than they had for any of the Olympic ideas but decided nonetheless to let Lewald and Diem go ahead.

Major advocates of the Olympic movement in Germany: from the left Dr Gebhardt, Carl Diem, Ritter von Halt and Willi Daume

(Photos: dpa 2, Ullstein, Nordbild)

Plans drawn up during the Weimar Republic were given a nationalist veneer and in 1933 the IOC decided to hold the winter Olympics in Garmisch-Partenkirchen. Karl Ritter von Halt (1891-1964), who was responsible for Garmisch, set standards that were hard to improve on.

As for the summer Olympics in Berlin, they too were a great success. German athletes won 33 gold medals, more even than the United States.

The part played by the Nazis in the Olympic movement in this country was complex but transparent enough. In the postwar years it was overestimated — overshadowed by Nazi crimes.

From the sporting point of view (which is not to say that sport can ever be entirely free from political aspects) it would be unquestionably wrong to claim that during the Third Reich Germany was a sporting giant.

The high esteem in which the organisation of the Berlin and Garmisch Olympics, not to mention German athletes and their Olympic performances, was held decided the IOC in summer 1939 to hold the 1940 winter Olympics in Garmisch again. Ritter von Halt and Carl Diem set up an organisation committee but three months later war broke out and their plans went by the board.

After the Second World War divided Germany, having learnt by experience, returned to the Olympic scene sooner. The Duke of Mecklenburg and Ritter von Halt made possible German participation in the 1952 Oslo and Helsinki Olympics.

The NOC, re-established on 24 September 1949, was recognised by the IOC in 1951. An attempt was made, first under Ritter von Halt, NOC chairman from 1951 to 1961, then, and more sucessfully, by Willi Daume, to unify German sport at the Olympic level.

Daume's efforts, supported by IOC chairmen Sigfrid Edström and Avery Brundage, led to the 1956, 1960 and 1964 all-German Olympic teams. The division of the team by IOC ruling in Madrid in 1965 was the result of political developments and rivalry between international sports officials.

Willi Daume's answer, six months later, was Munich's application to host the 1972 Olympics, an answer that breathed the spirit that has moved the Olympic organisation in this country for the past 75 years.

Karl Adolf Scherer

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 4 December 1970)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc. 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6.—
Bolivia	$ b 1.50
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20
Ceylon	cR —.60
Chile	Esc. 0.60
Columbia	col $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—
Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.16
Ecuador	S 2.50
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT $ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
Ghana	cedi 0.12
Great Britain	11 d
Greece	Dr 4.—
Guatemala	Q 0.15
Guayana	BWI $ 0.20
Guinea	F.G. 30.—
Haiti	G 0.65
Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20
Honduras	L 0.25
Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70
Hungary	Ft 1.—
Iceland	Kr 5.—
India	Rs 0.80
Indonesia	Rp. 15.—
Iran	Rl 10.—
Iraq	50 fils
Ireland	11 d
Israel	I £ 0.40
Italy	Lir. 80
Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Jamaica	11 d
Japan	Yen 50
Jordan	50 fils
Kenya	EAs 0.25
Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
Libya	50 Mills
Luxembourg	lfr 6
Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.50
Morocco	DM —.65
Mozambique	Esc. 1.—
Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.50
Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25
New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.65
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B. 0.15
Paraguay	G. 15.—
Peru	S. 3.50
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0.50
Portugal	Esc. 1.—
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—
Rumania	Leu 0.50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.50
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Sierra Leone	Le 0.10
Somalia	Sh So 0.90
South Africa	Rand 0.10
South Korea	Won 35.—
S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—
Spain	Pts 8.—
Sudan	PT 5.—
Syria	£ S 0.50
Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Thailand	B 3.—
Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Turkey	T £ 1.25
Tunisia	65 M
Uganda	EAs 0.25
UAR	PT 5.—
Uruguay	P 20.—
USA	$ 0.20
USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Venezuela	B 0.60
Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Zambia	11 d